

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR


# Amulet

by J. K. KUSHNER



BOOK SIX

ESCAPE FROM LUCIEN

 SCHOLASTIC



Amulet



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# Amulet


KAZU KIBUISHI



BOOK SIX  
ESCAPE FROM LUCIEN



AN IMPRINT OF

 SCHOLASTIC









THE KING HAS REQUESTED THAT I REMAIN OUTSIDE.

I WILL BE WAITING HERE UNTIL YOU RETURN.



LOGI, YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT I WILL ALWAYS ACT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE ELF KINGDOM.



EVEN IF IT MEANS RAISING DOUBTS OVER MY ALLEGIANCE.



YOUR HIGHNESS.

MAX GRIFFIN HAS ARRIVED!







MY LORD, I  
APOLOGIZE FOR  
FAILING TO DESTROY  
THE STONEKEEPERS.

I HUMBLY  
REQUEST TO BE  
GIVEN ONE MORE  
CHANCE TO DO  
THIS RIGHT.



MAX, I WAS TOLD  
BY A LITTLE BIRD  
THAT YOUR AMULET  
IS GUIDED BY A  
VOICE. IS THIS  
TRUE?



THERE IS NO  
TRUTH TO IT,  
MY LIEGE.


WHOEVER  
TOLD YOU SUCH A  
THING IS A LIAR.

HMM, I SEE.

THEN I WILL  
HAVE THEM  
EXECUTED.


SHK!





I CANNOT  
STAND IDLY BY  
AND ALLOW THEM  
TO INSULT YOU.

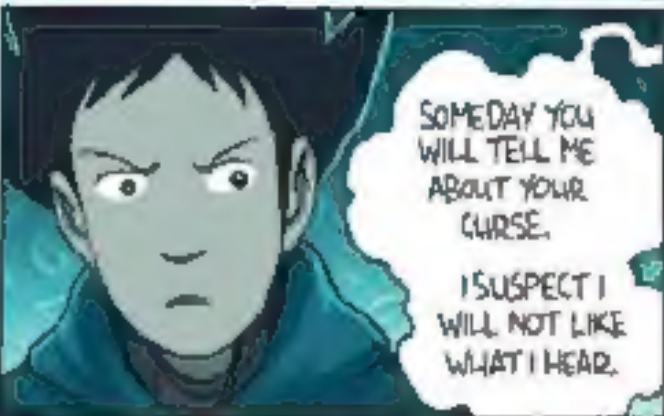
TO CALL MY BEST  
OFFICER A TRAITOR  
IS A GRAVE MISTAKE  
AND A TERRIBLE  
OFFENSE.



MAX, YOU ARE  
EVERYTHING THAT  
MY SON TRELLIS  
WAS NOT.


YOUR THIRST  
FOR VENGEANCE  
HAS BEEN A GUIDING  
LIGHT

THAT IS WHY  
I MADE YOU THE  
PRINCE.



SOMEDAY YOU  
WILL TELL ME  
ABOUT YOUR  
CURSE.

I SUSPECT I  
WILL NOT LIKE  
WHAT I HEAR.




DON'T  
WORRY, MAX.

TODAY IS NOT  
THAT DAY.

TODAY YOU PROMISE TO  
FINISH YOUR WORK AND  
DESTROY THE OTHER  
STONEKEEPERS.

CAN YOU PROMISE  
THAT FOR ME?

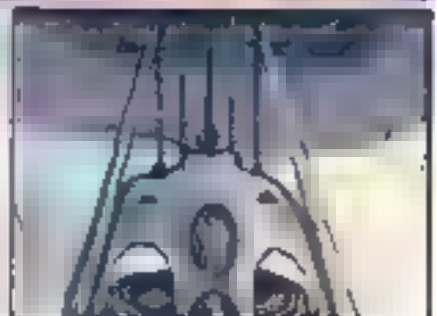
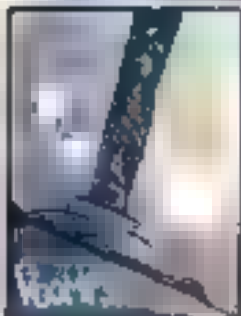
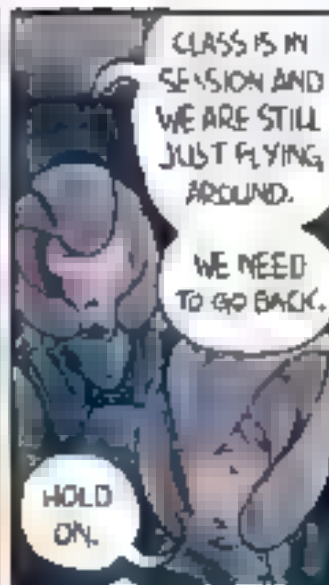


I PROMISE TO  
SERVE THE ELVES,  
YOUR MAJESTY.

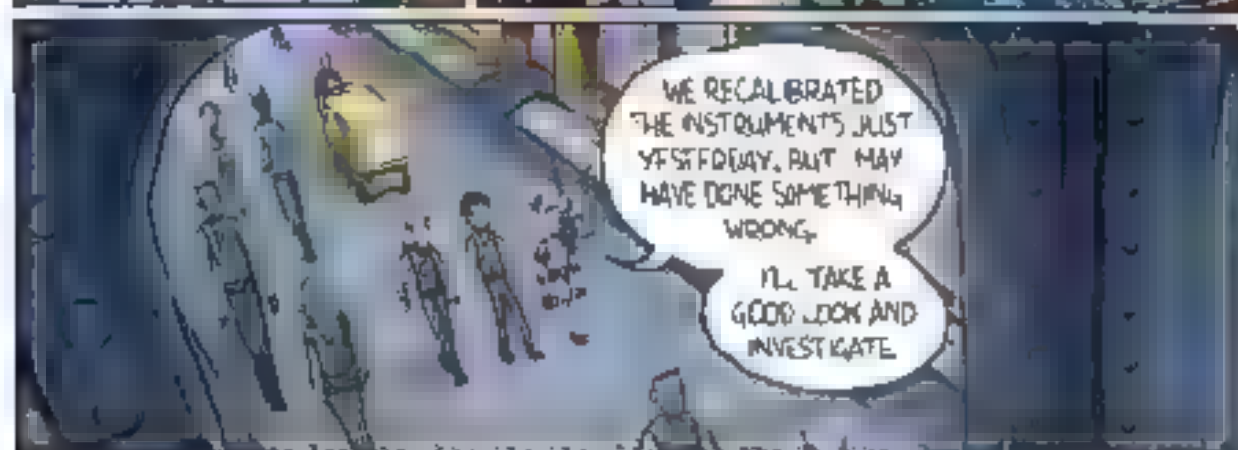
AND I PROMISE  
I WILL NOT FAIL  
THEM.





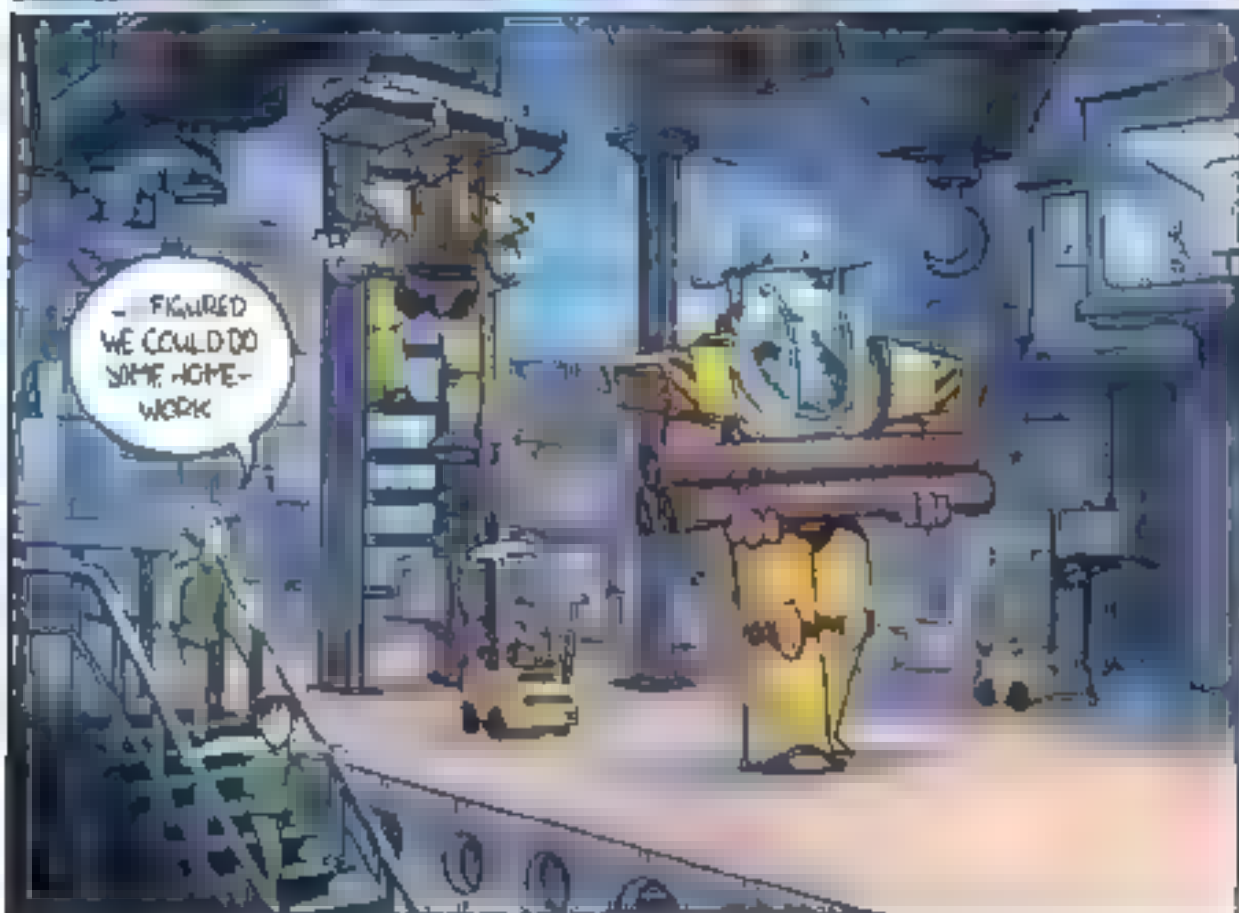
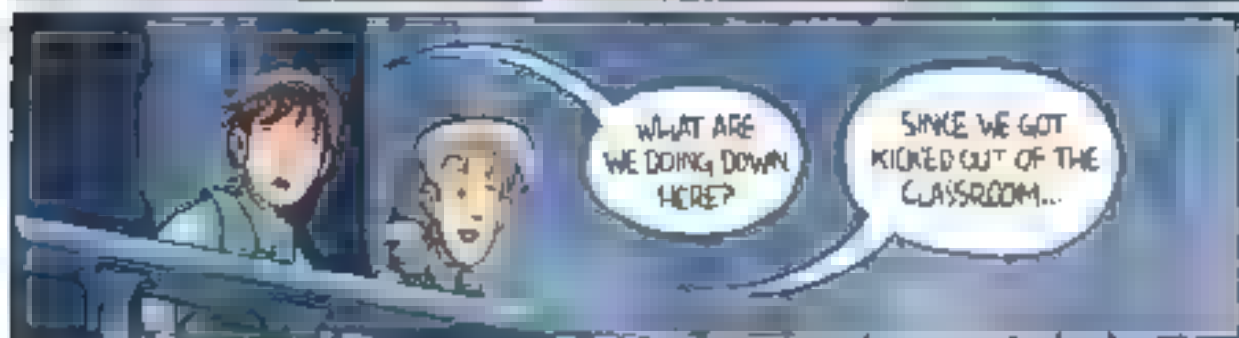
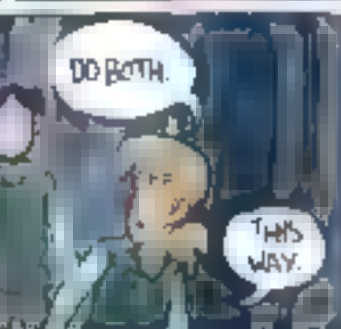
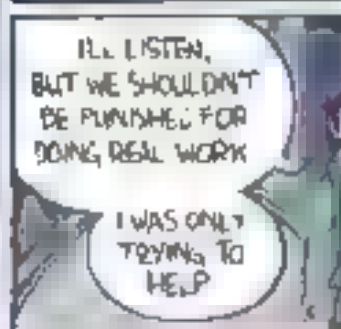
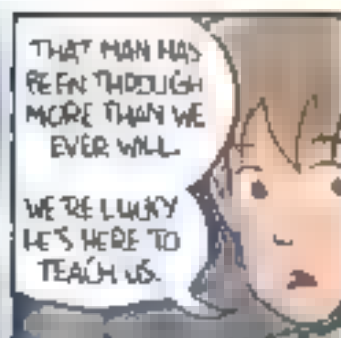


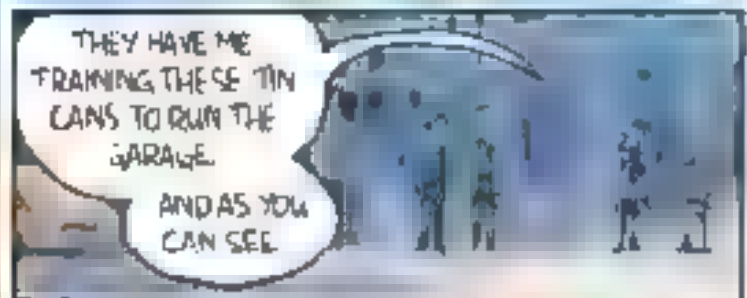
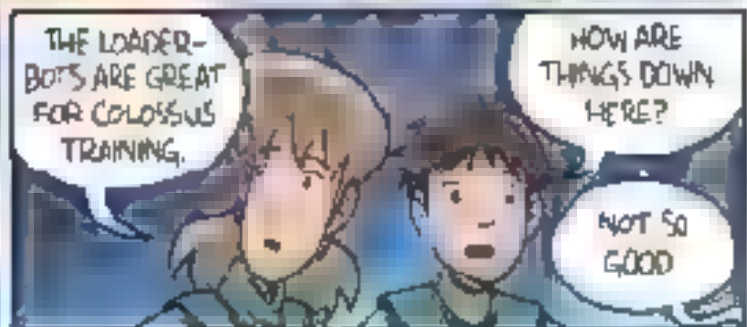




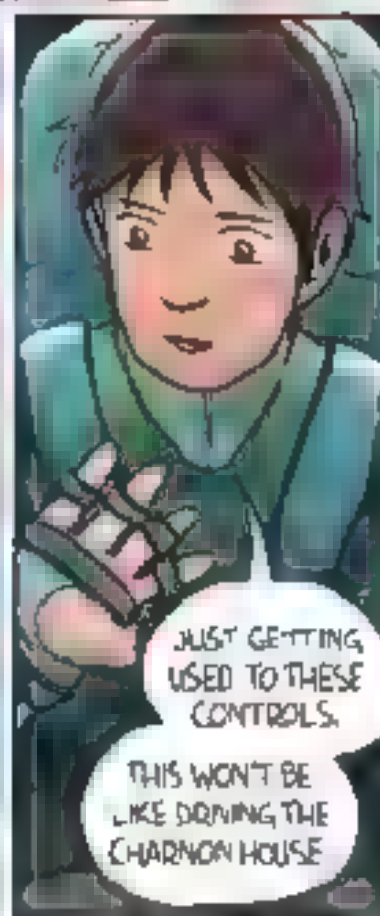
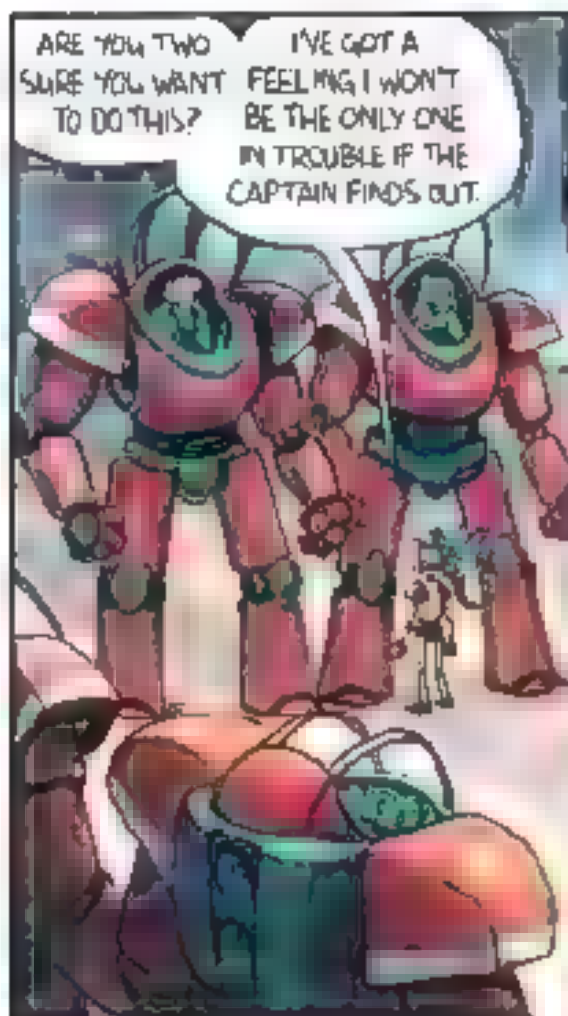


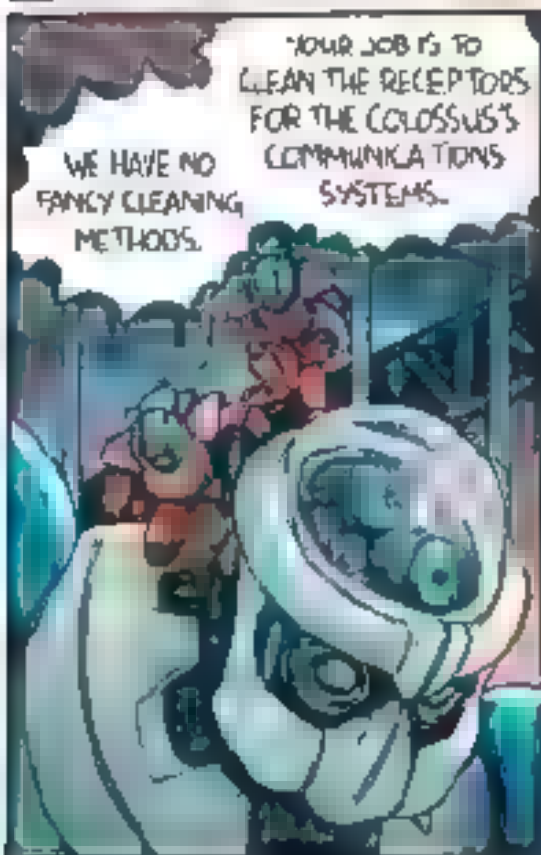
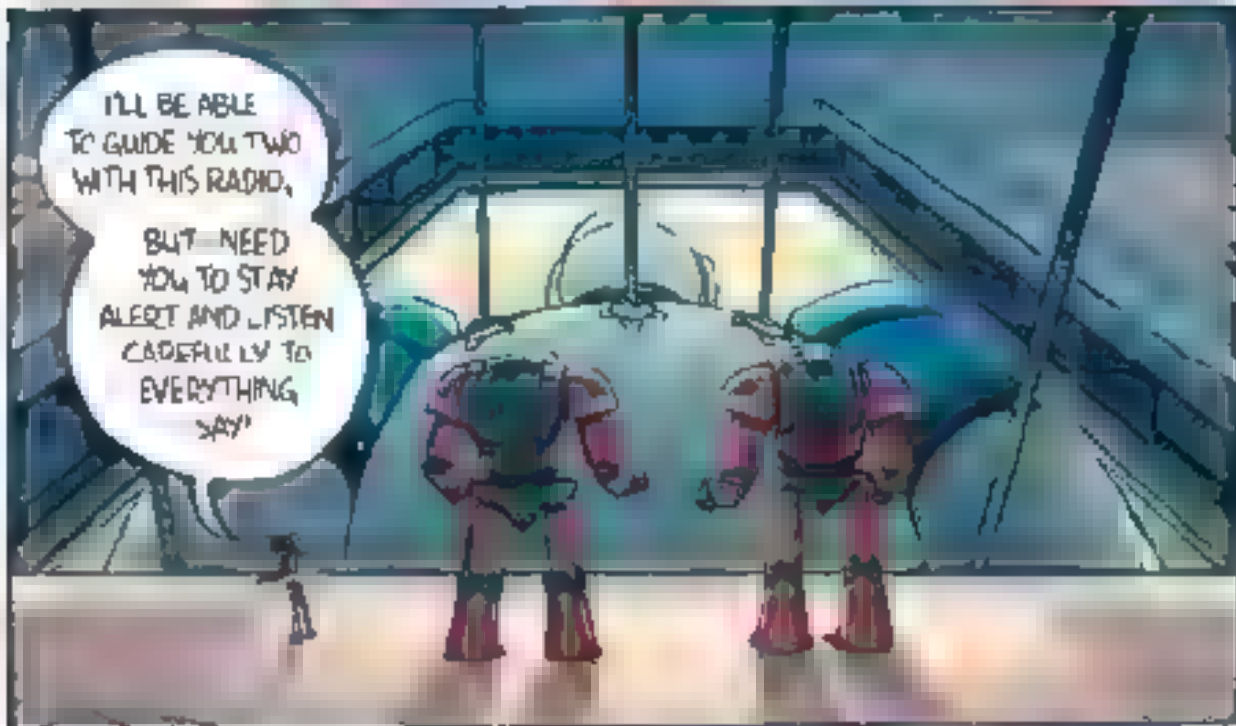








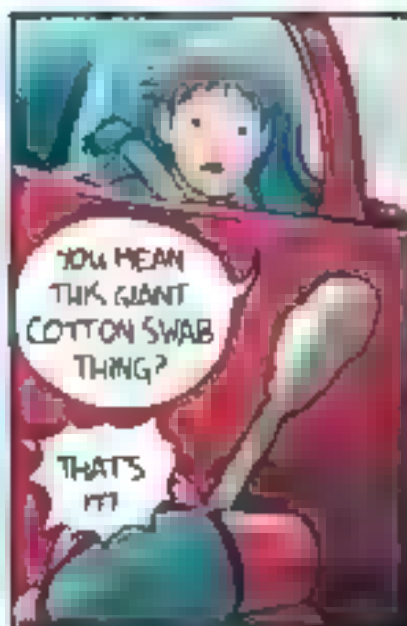








REACH INTO  
YOUR TOOLKIT  
AND FIND THE  
WAX EXTRACTOR  
TOOL.



YOU MEAN  
THAT GIANT  
COTTON SWAB  
THING?

THAT'S  
IT!



NOW USE  
IT TO EXTRACT  
AS MUCH WAX  
AS POSSIBLE.

THIS IS VERY  
SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT.  
SO BE CAREFUL!



WIN  
HEY CHIEF,  
YOU'RE BEING  
ASKED TO REPORT  
TO THE BRIDGE.

TELL  
THEM I'M  
BUSY



THIS SOUNDS  
URGENT.  
IT'S YOUR  
SISTER.

EMP?

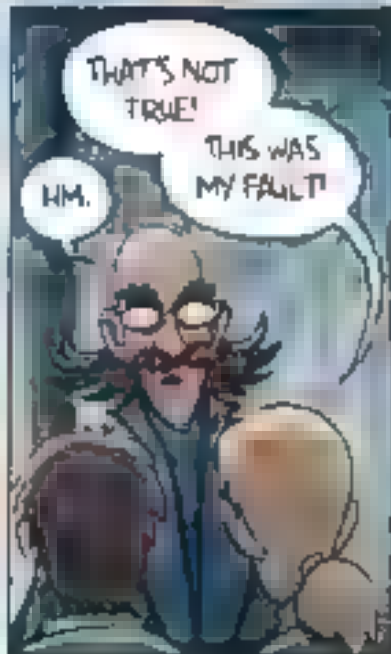
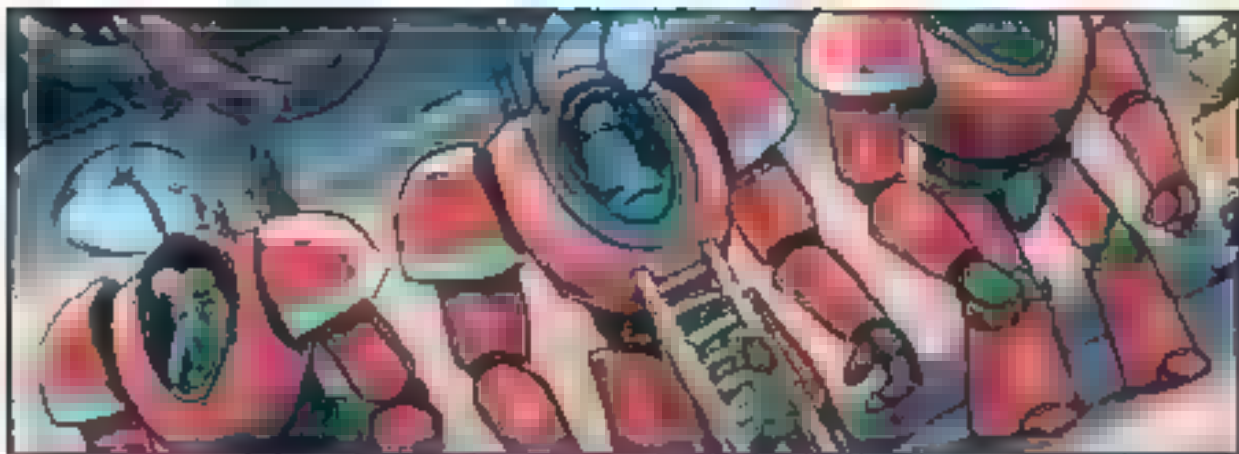


NAVIN,  
LOOK

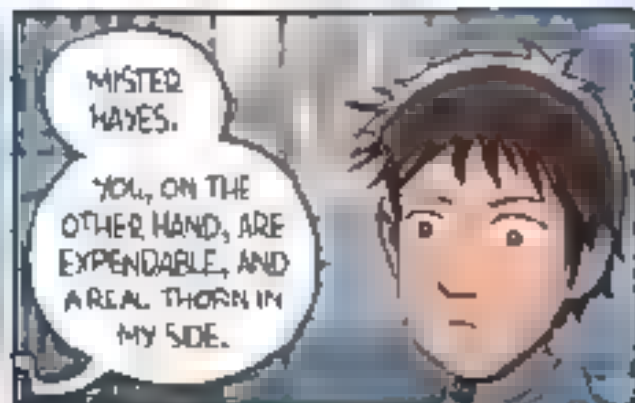
WHAT SHOULD  
I TELL HER,  
CHIEF?

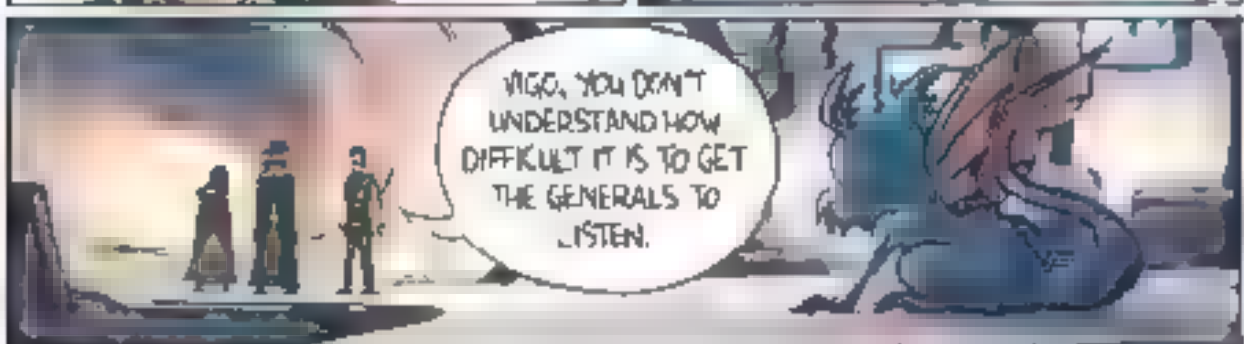
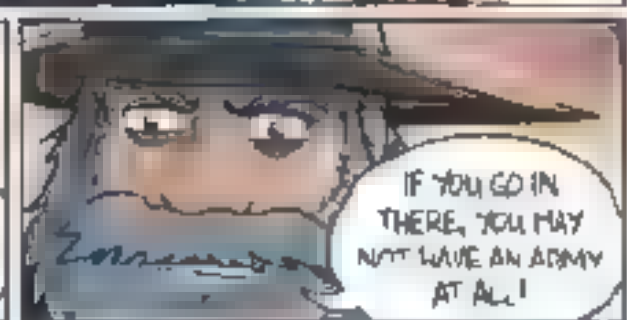
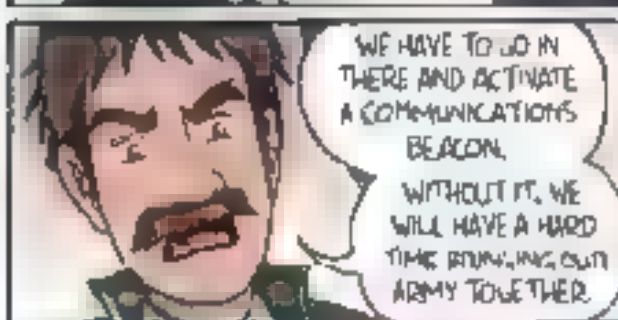
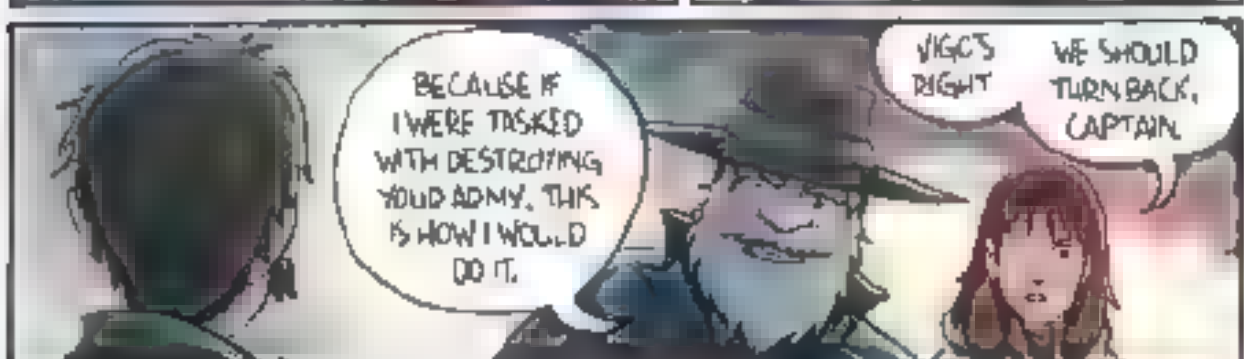
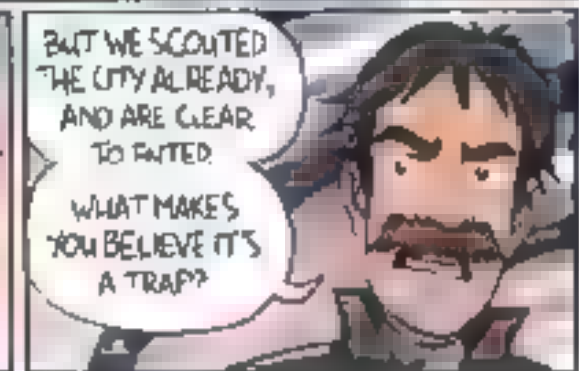


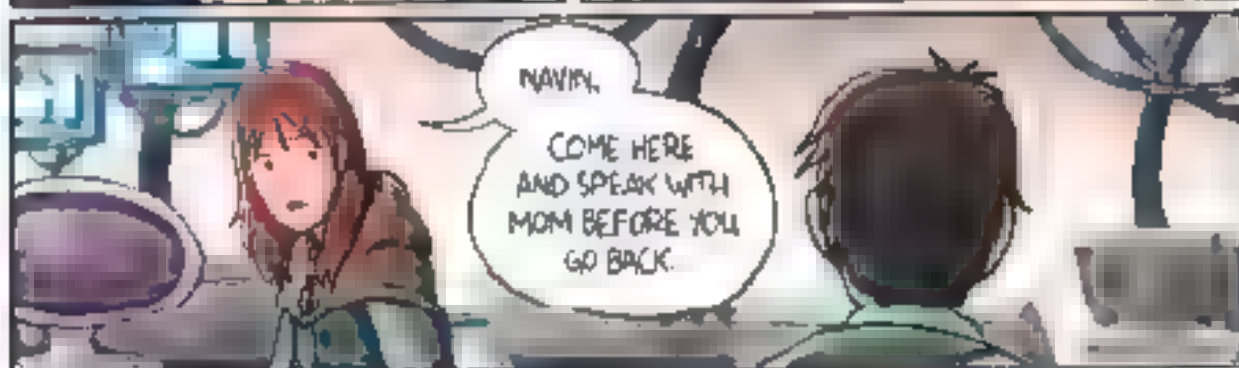
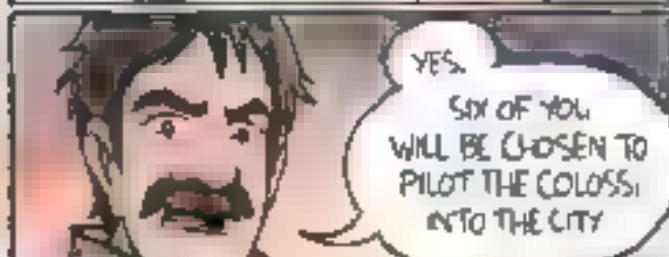
TELL HER  
I'LL BE RIGHT  
THERE.

















OKAY,  
LUGER.

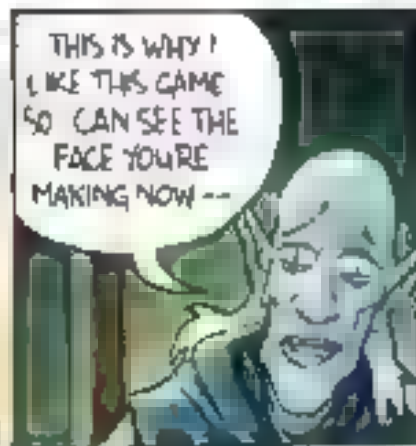
MIGHT BE  
THE WORST OTHELLO  
PLAYER YOU EVER  
WENT UP AGAINST.

BUT I THINK  
GOT YOU THIS  
TIME

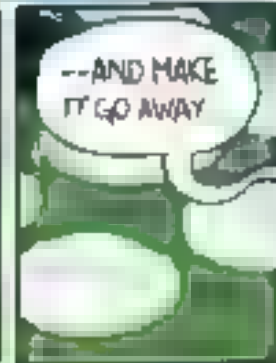


THIS ONE  
IS OVER,  
BROTHER.

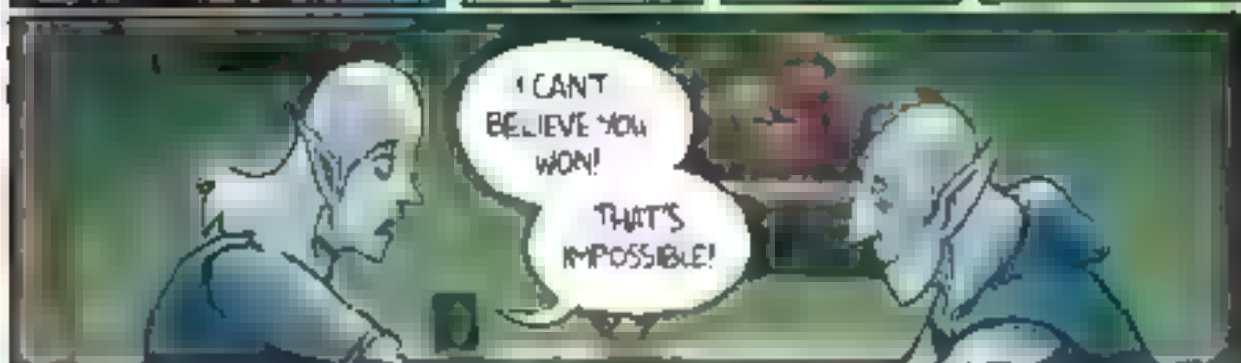
YOU  
LOSE!



THIS IS WHY I  
LIKE THIS GAME  
SO CAN SEE THE  
FACE YOU'RE  
MAKING NOW --

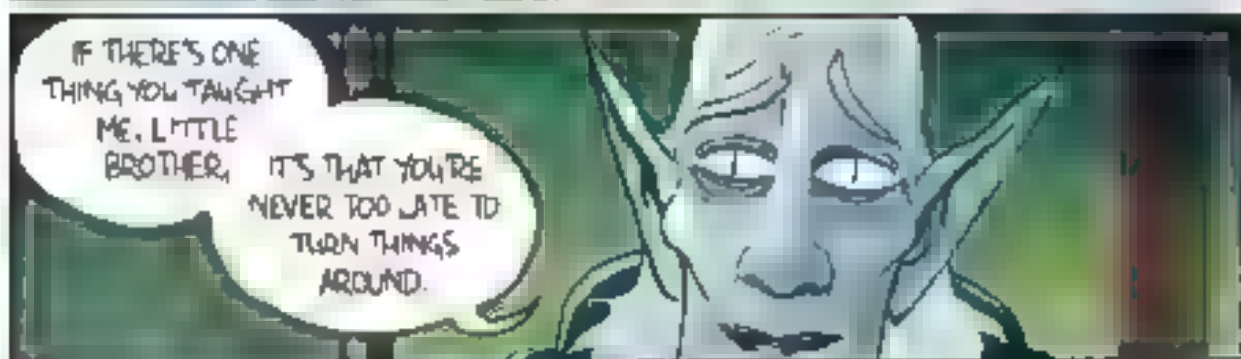


--AND MAKE  
IT GO AWAY



I CAN'T  
BELIEVE YOU  
WON!

THAT'S  
IMPOSSIBLE!



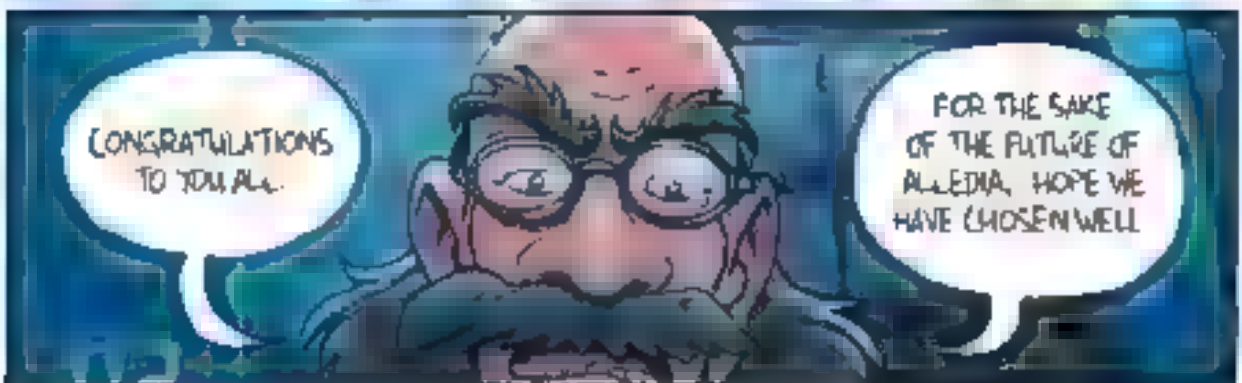
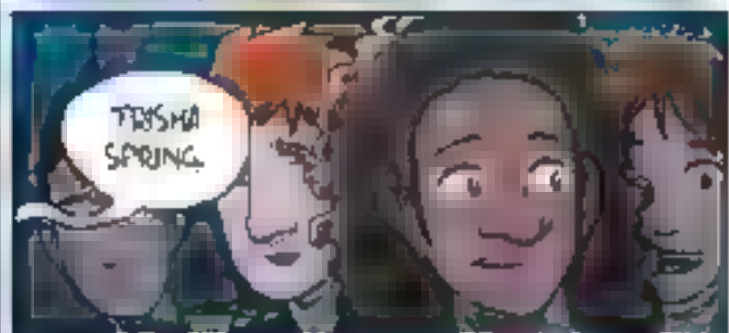
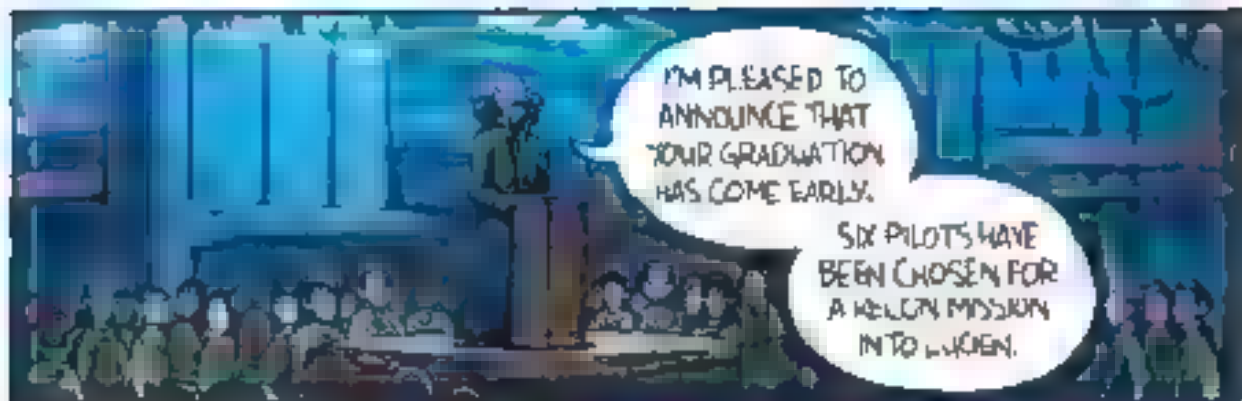
IF THERE'S ONE  
THING YOU TAUGHT  
ME, LITTLE  
BROTHER,

IT'S THAT YOU'RE  
NEVER TOO LATE TO  
TURN THINGS  
AROUND.

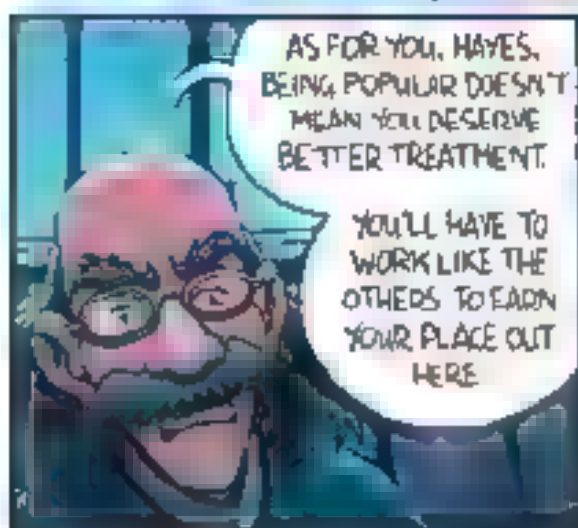
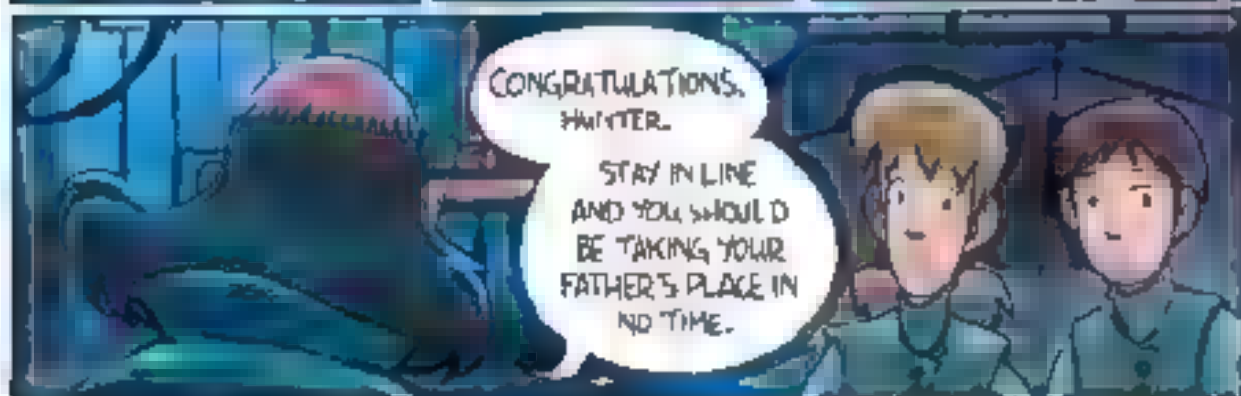
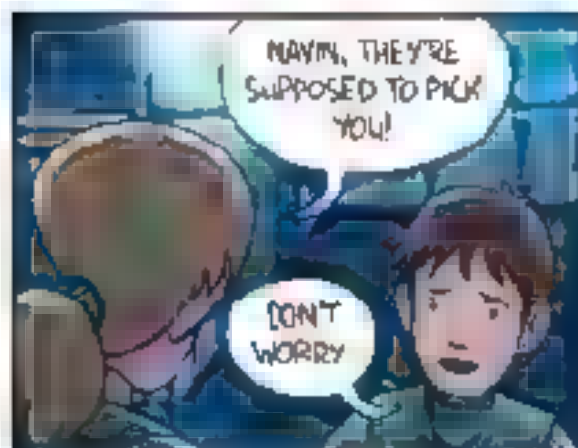


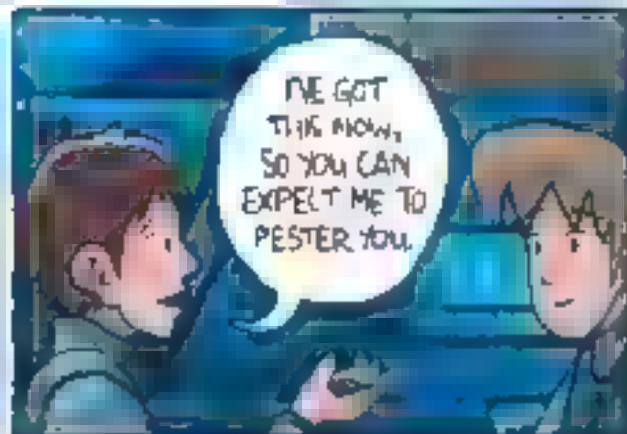
PARDON ME,  
GENTLEMEN.

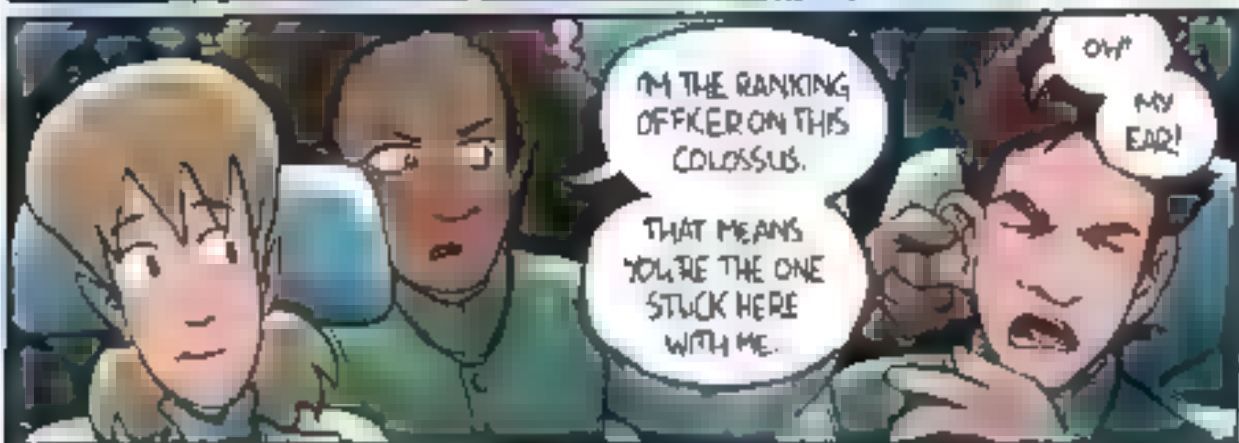
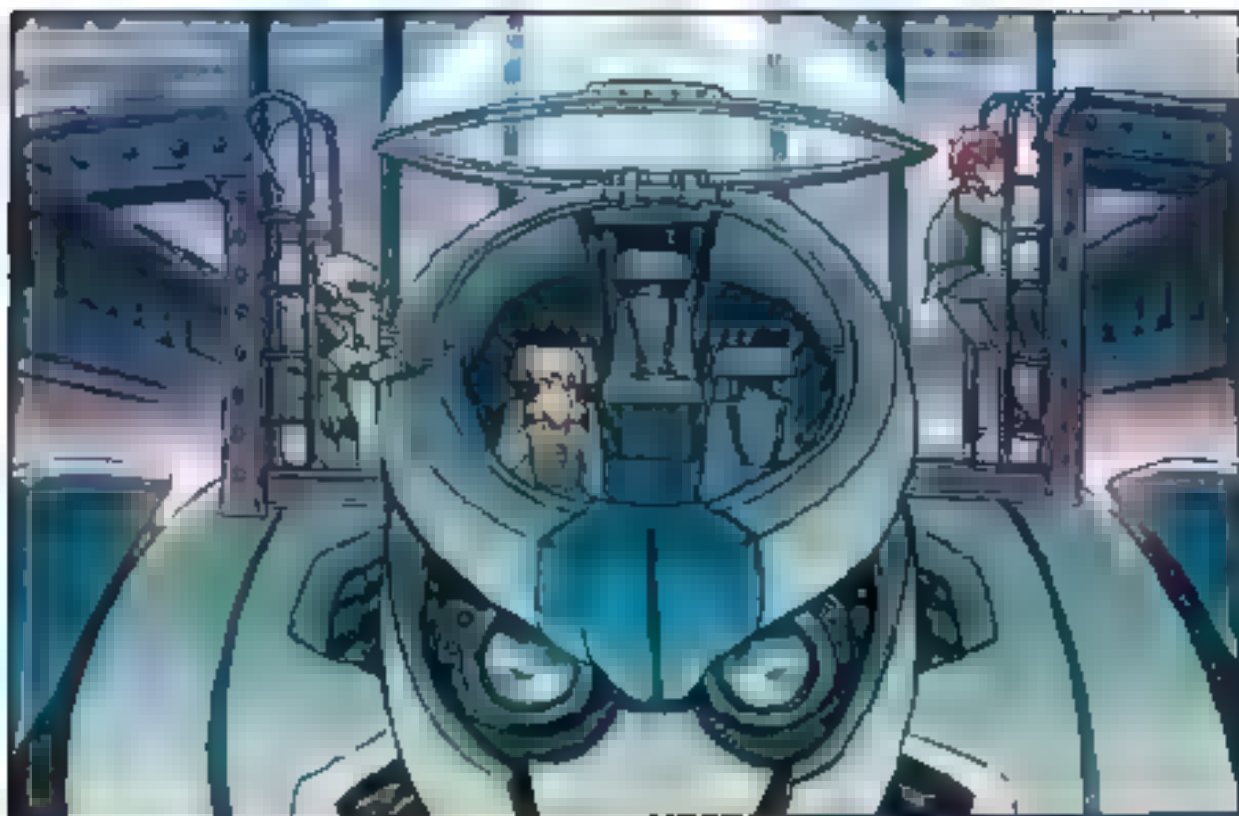
YOUR PRESENCE  
IS REQUESTED IN THE  
LOADING BAY



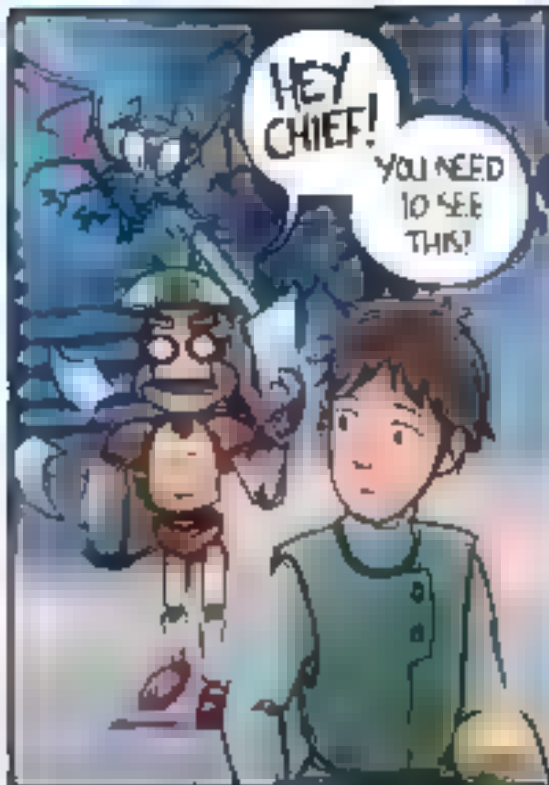






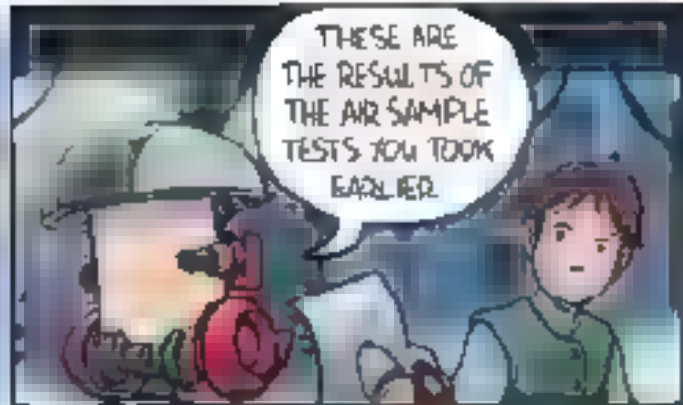






HEY CHIEF!

YOU NEED TO SEE THIS!



THESE ARE THE RESULTS OF THE AIR SAMPLE TESTS YOU TOOK EARLIER.



I DON'T SEE ANYTHING.

EXACTLY



HAD THE LAB TEST IT TWICE.

STILL NOTHING.

THE MOISTURE CONTENT SHOWS US CONDITIONS IN THE AIR WITHOUT ANY CLOUD COVER.

BUT THE SKY WAS FULL OF CLOUDS.



ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, NONE OF THOSE CLOUDS WERE ACTUALLY THERE.

WHAT YOU SAW WAS AN ILLUSION.



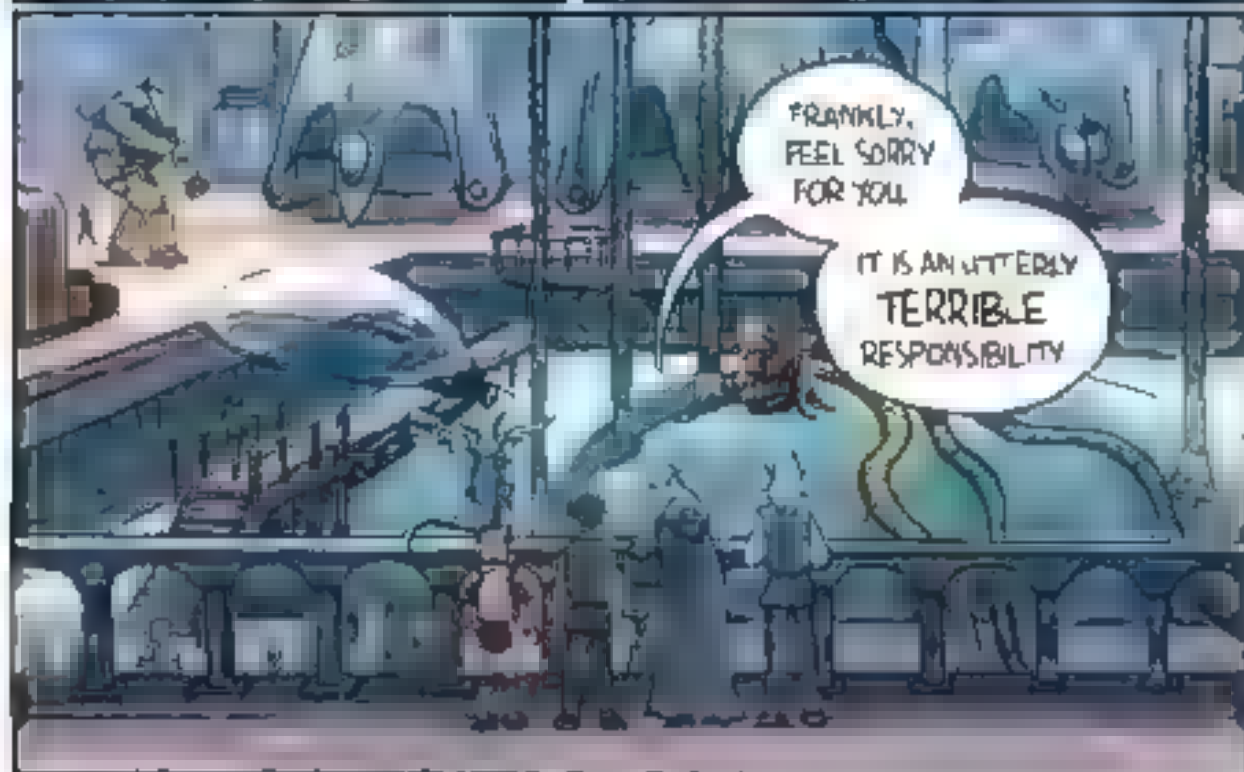
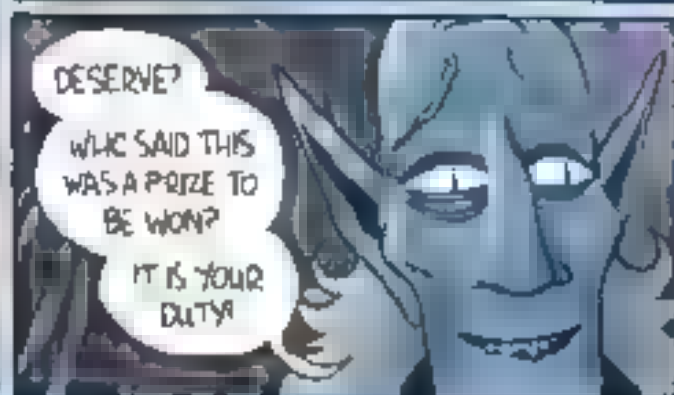
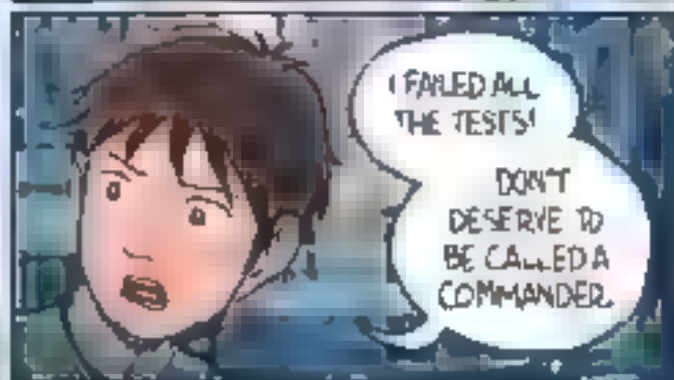
JUST LIKE THE CLOUDS AROUND CELLS.

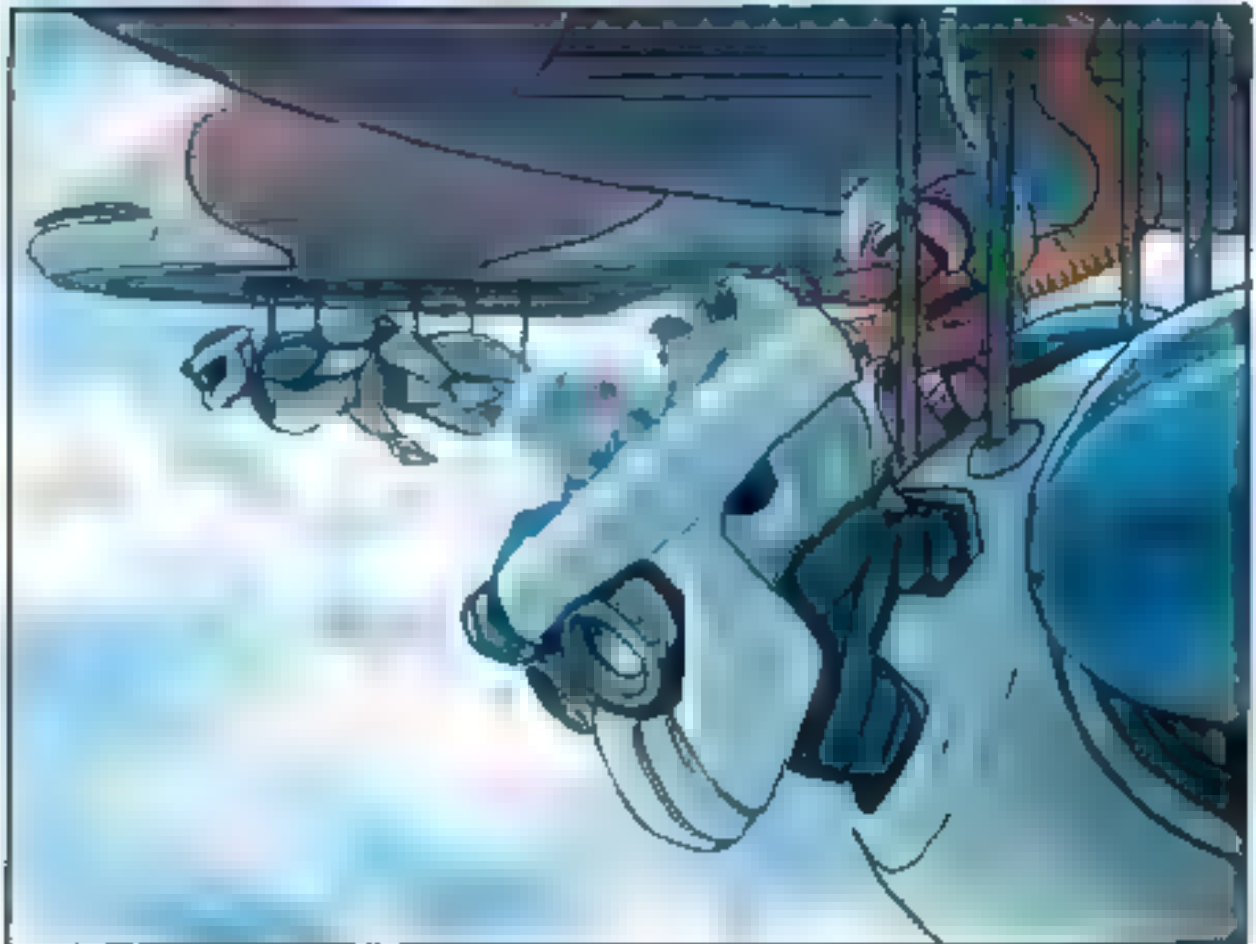
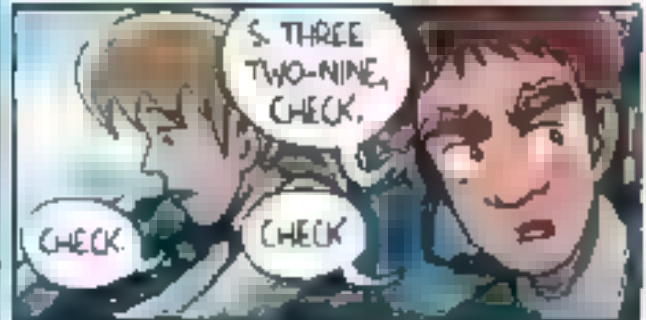
HEY!



WHY ARE THESE FOOLS NOT SENDING YOU ON THIS MISSION?

YOU'RE THE MOST QUALIFIED!

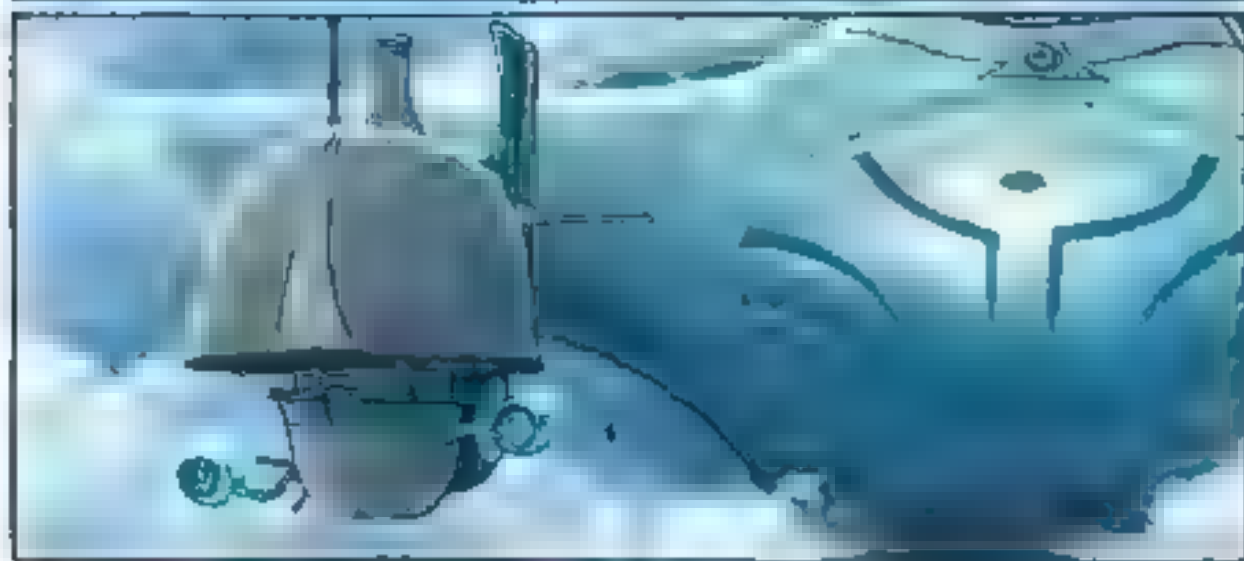
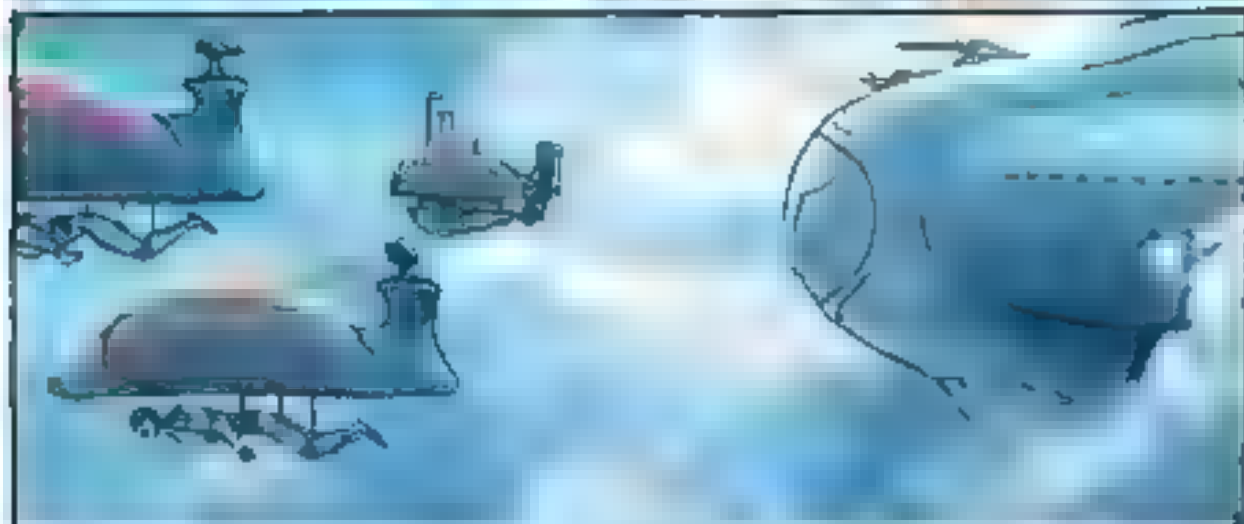




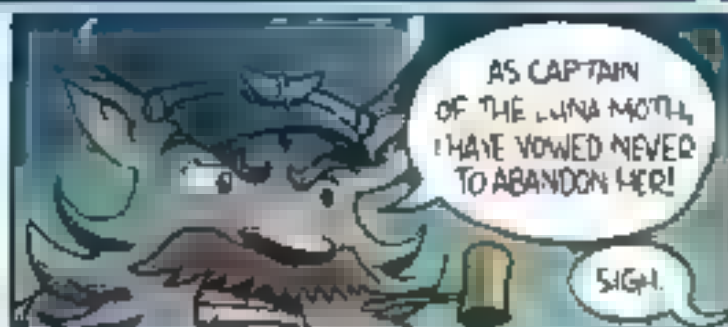
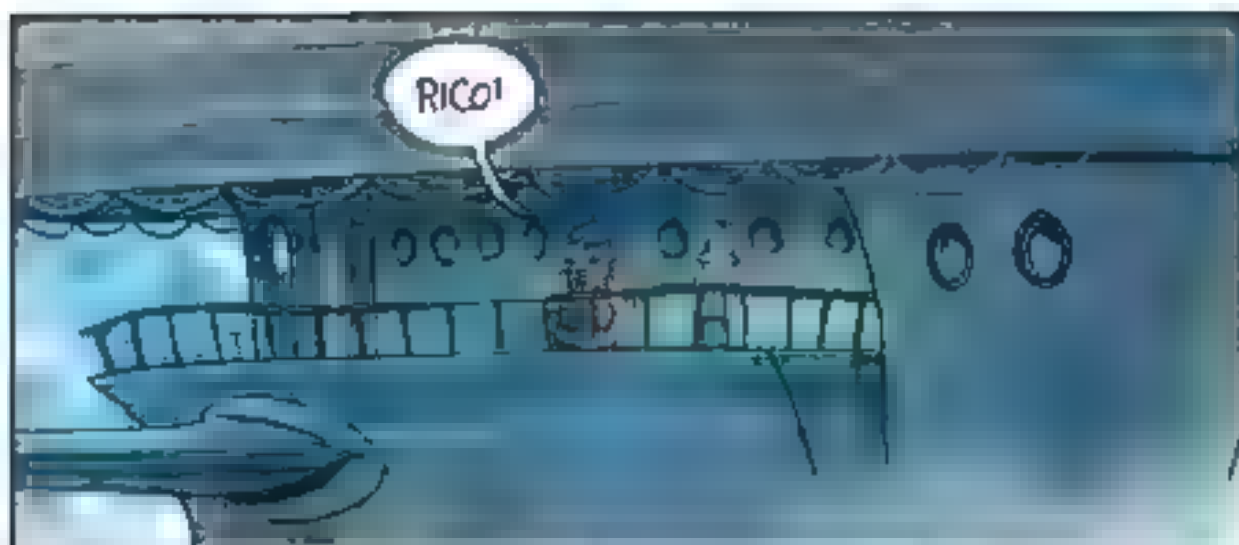


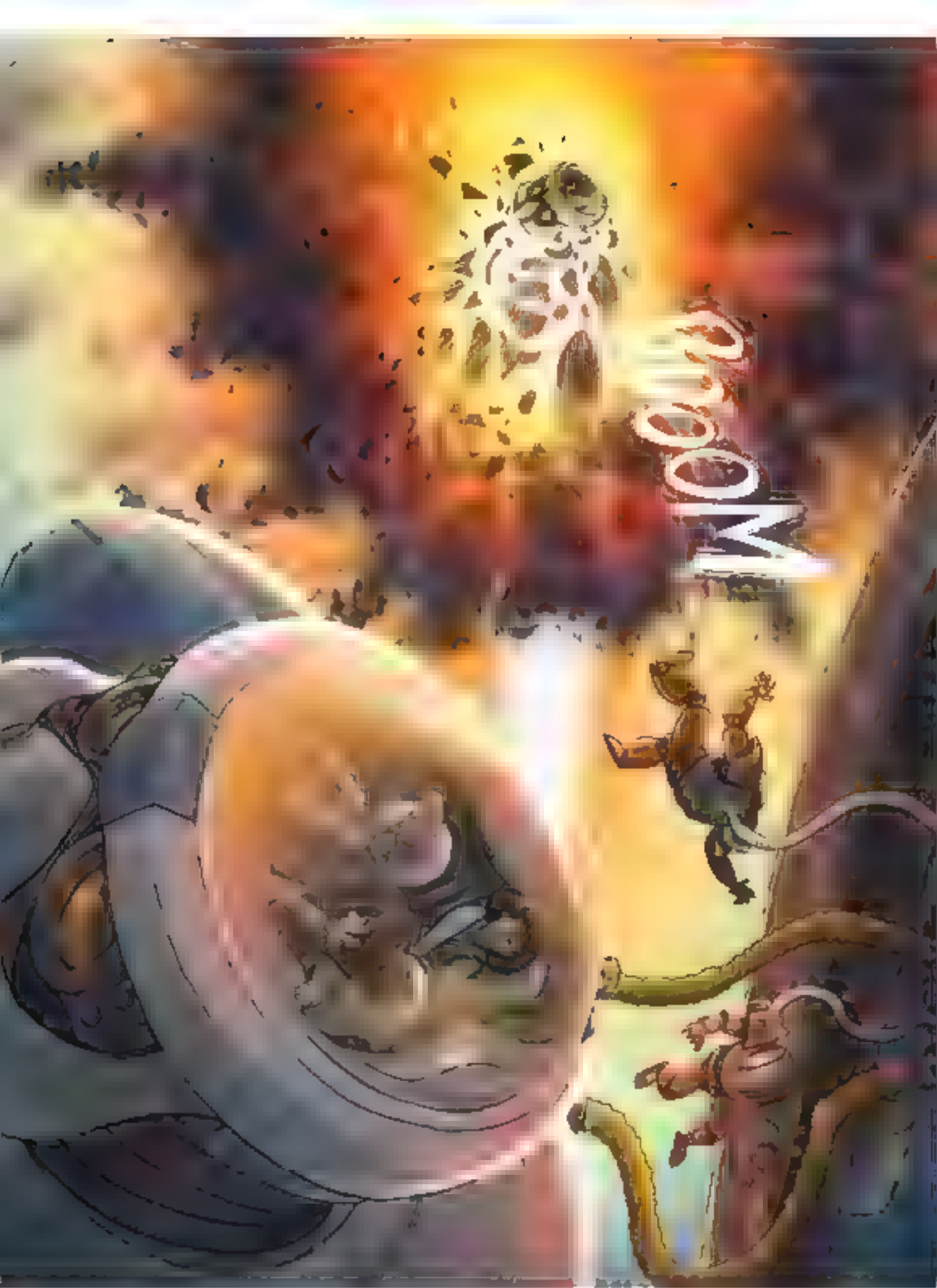


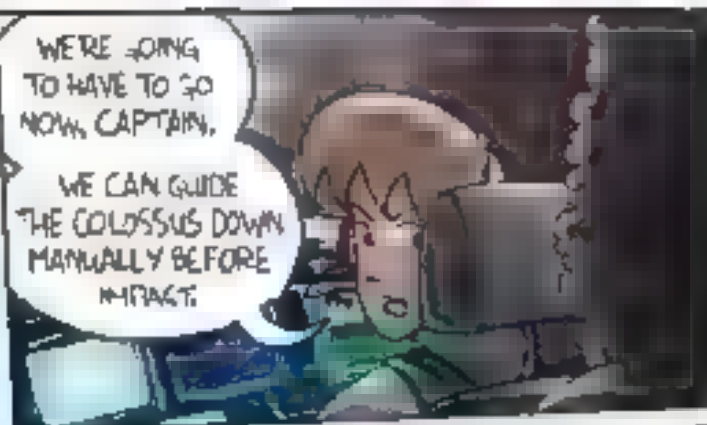




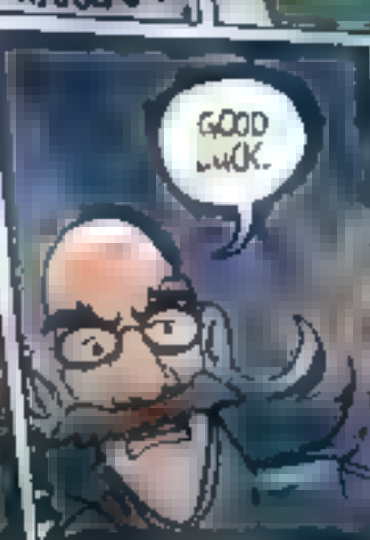
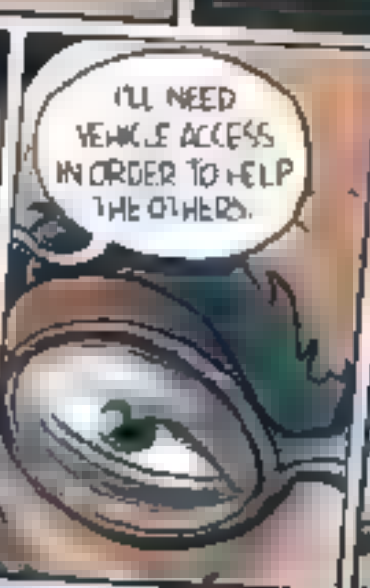
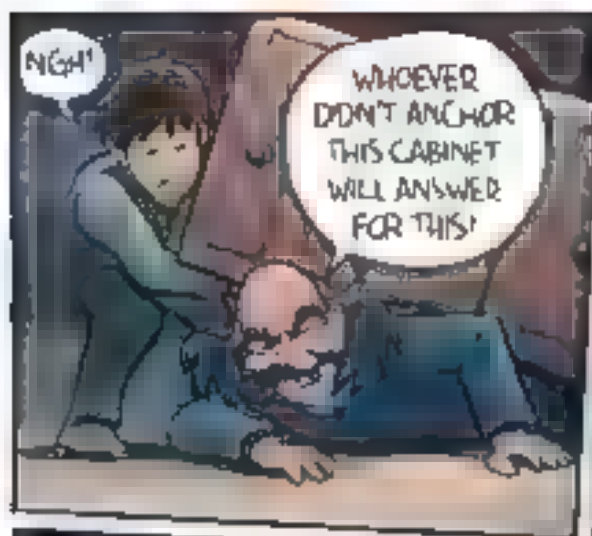




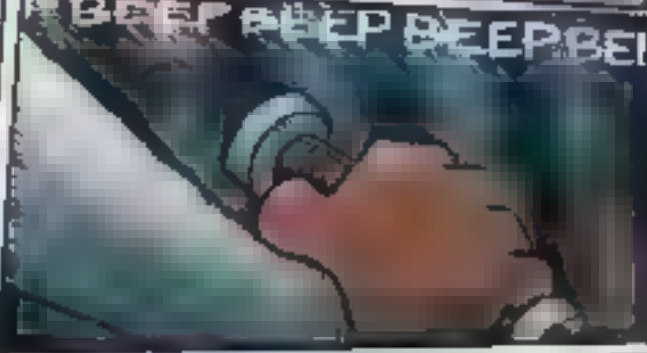
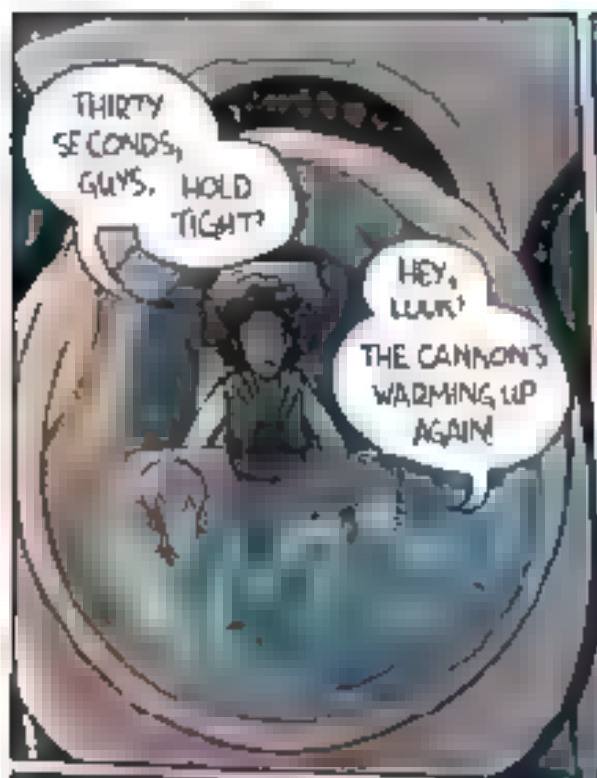




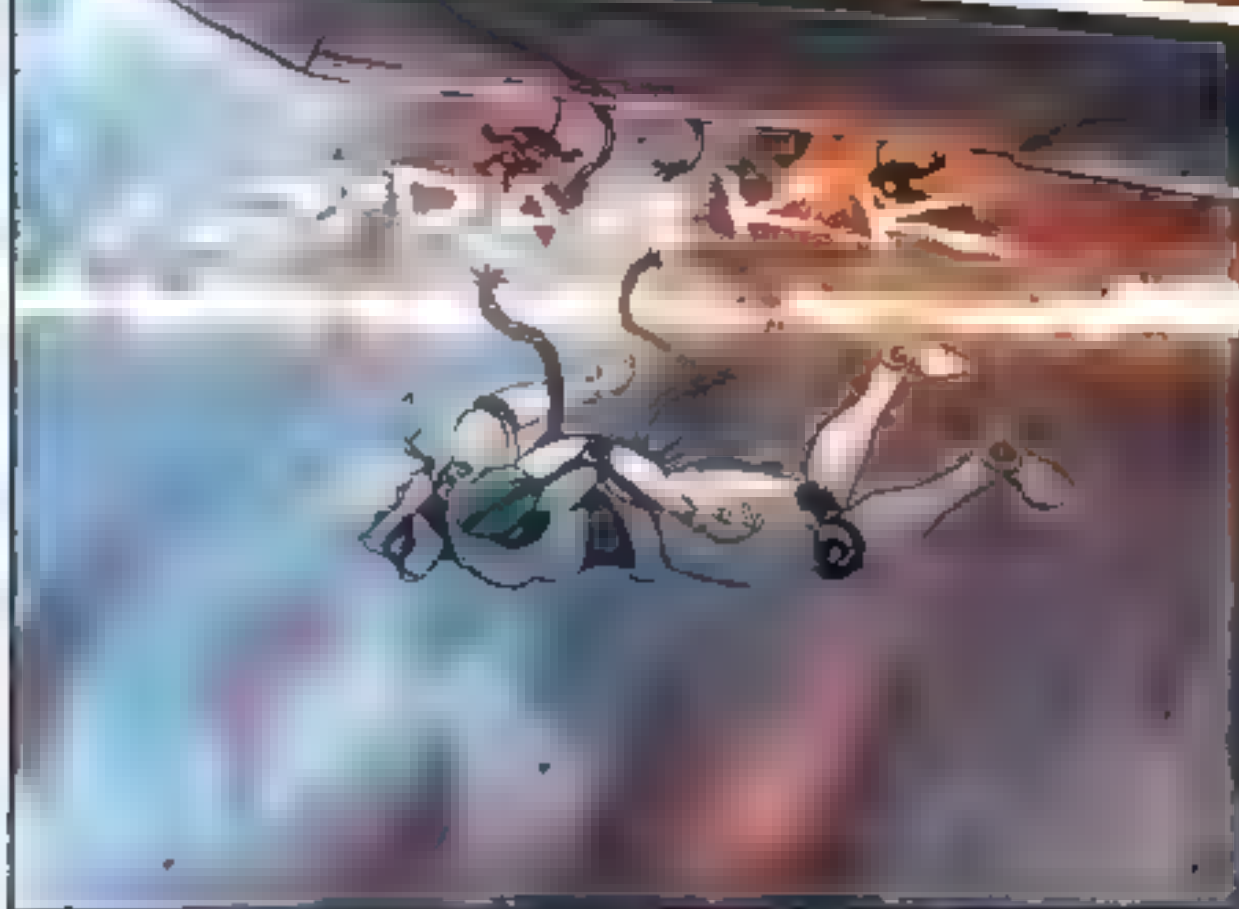
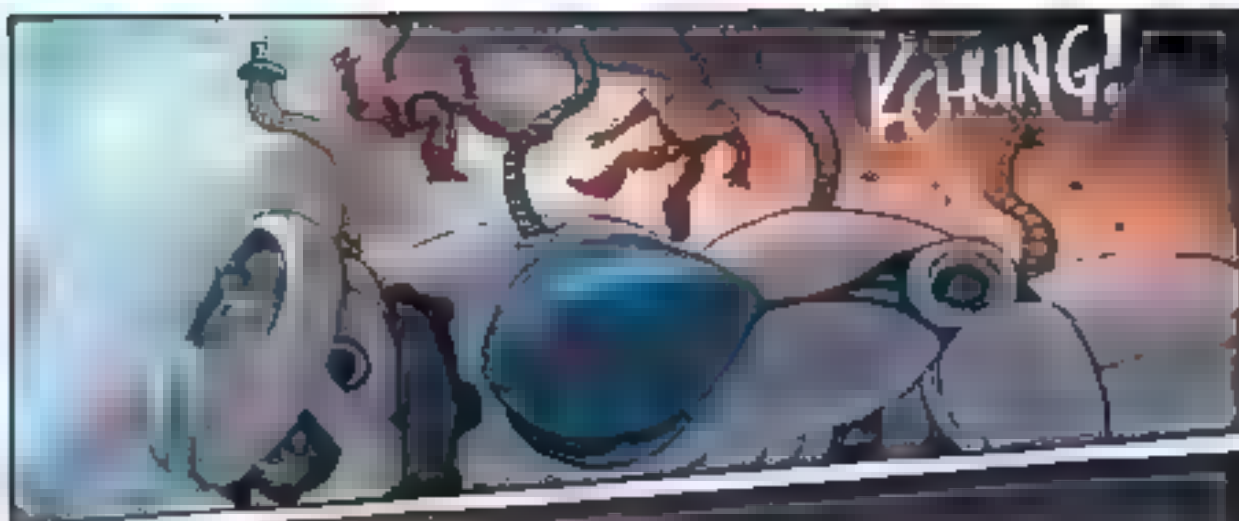


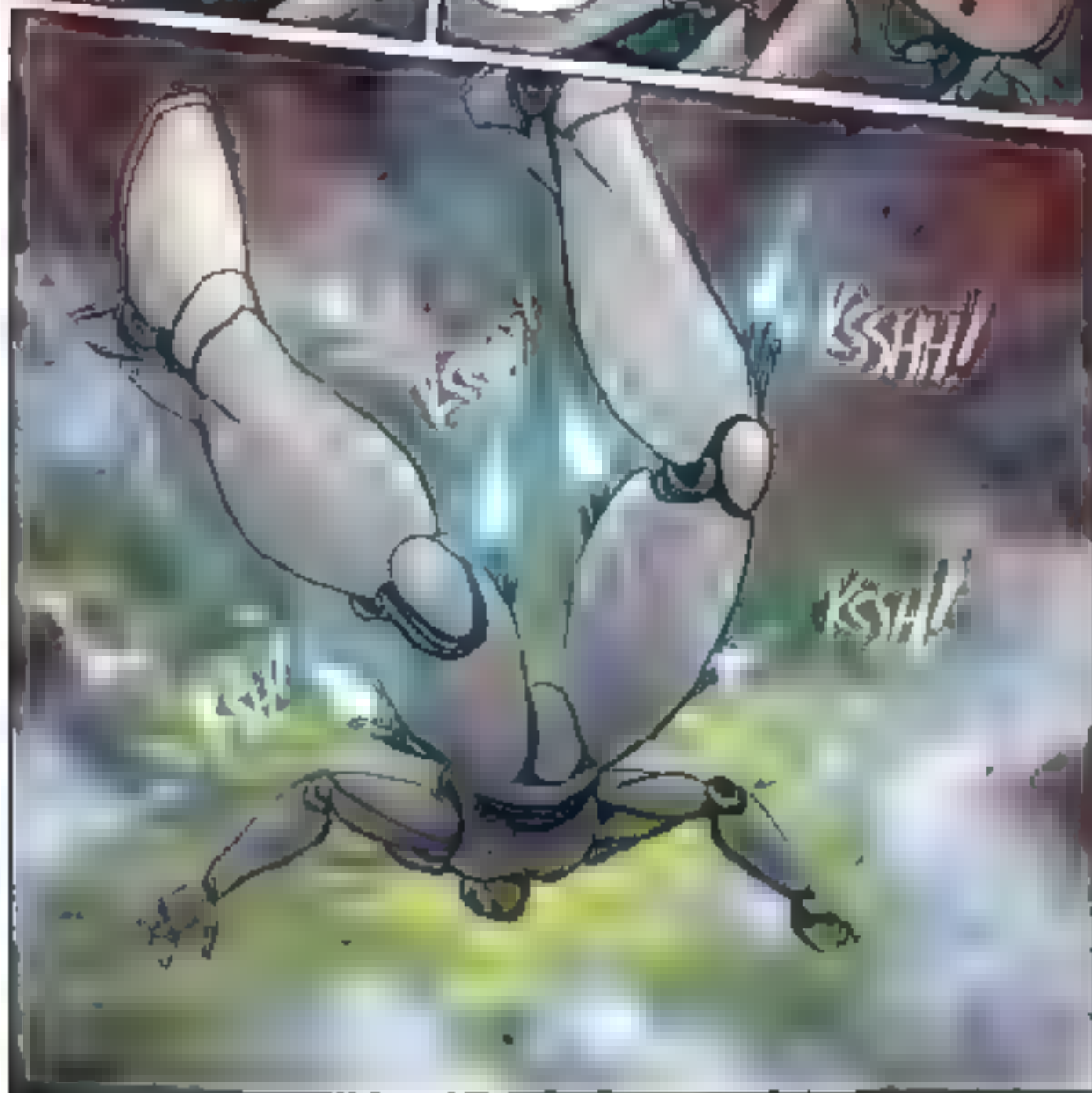


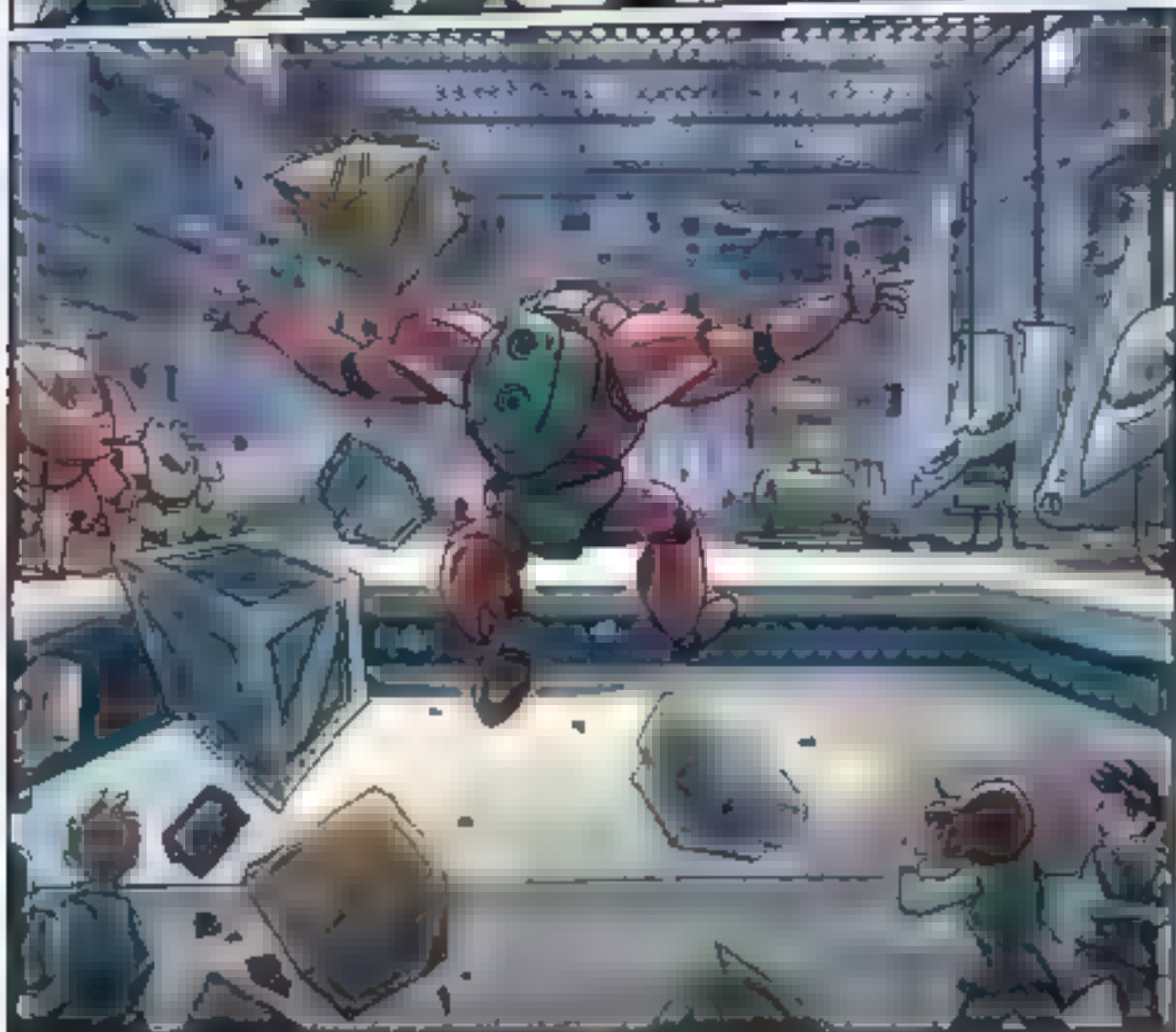




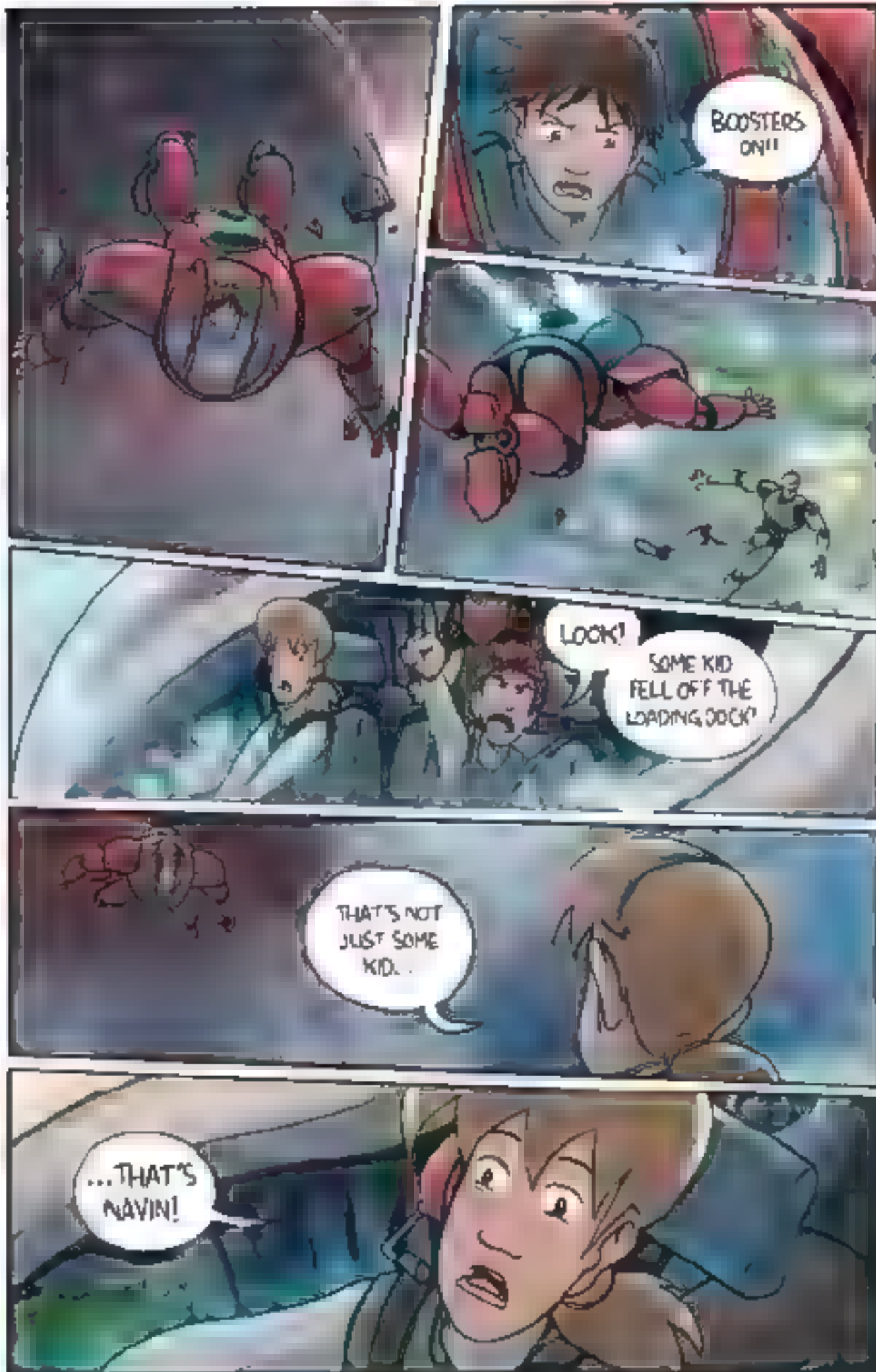


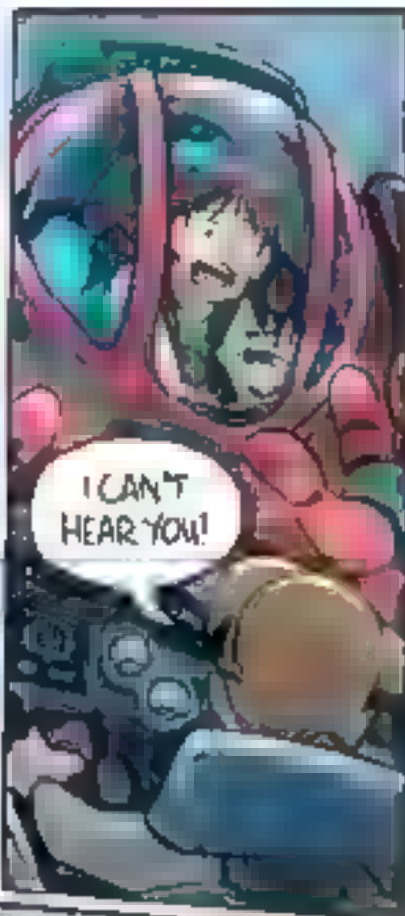
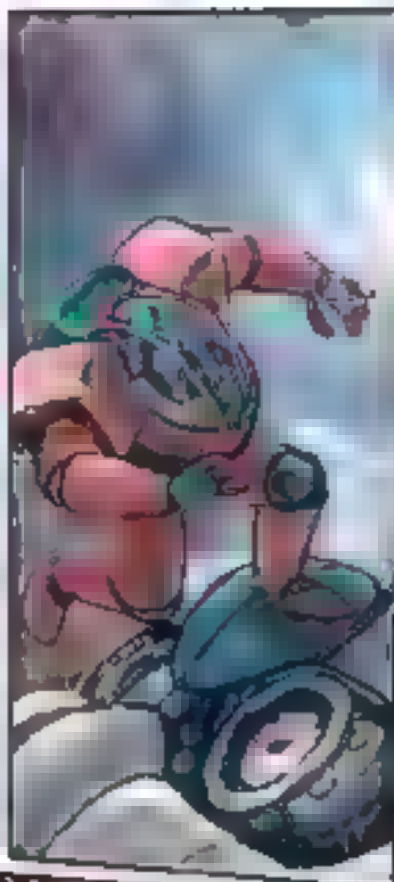
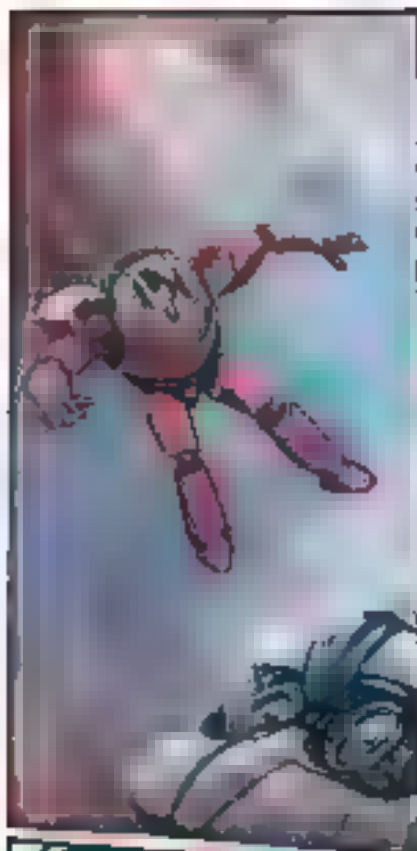


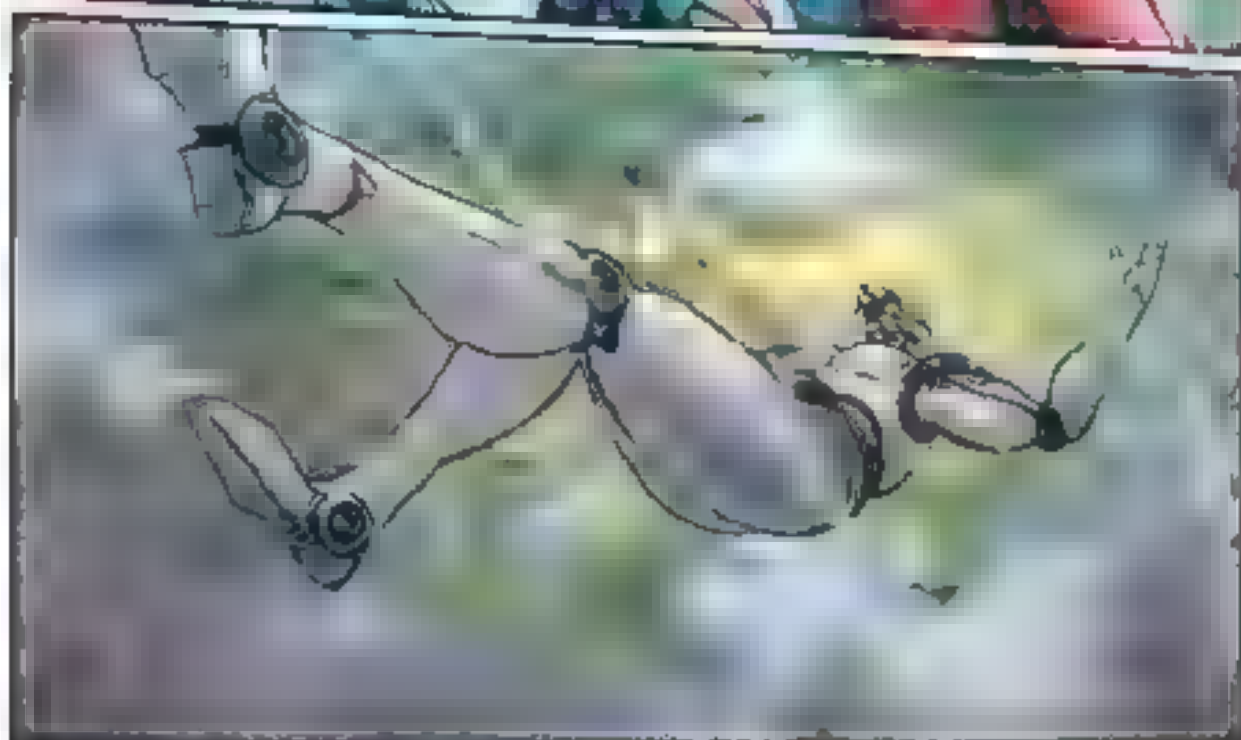
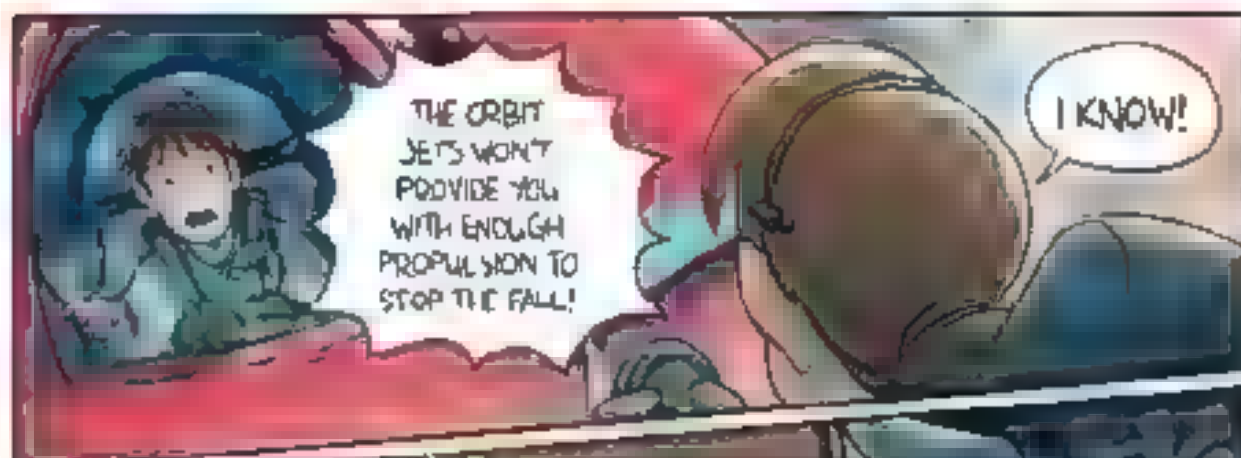




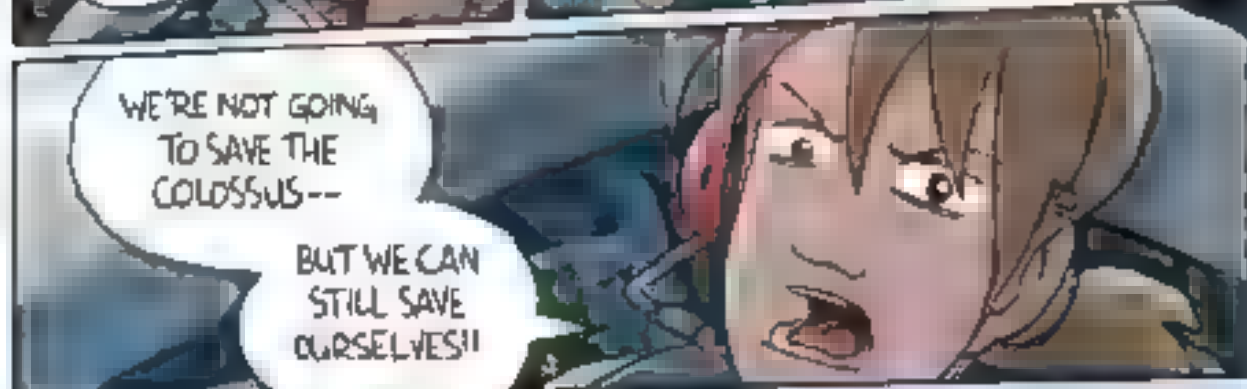
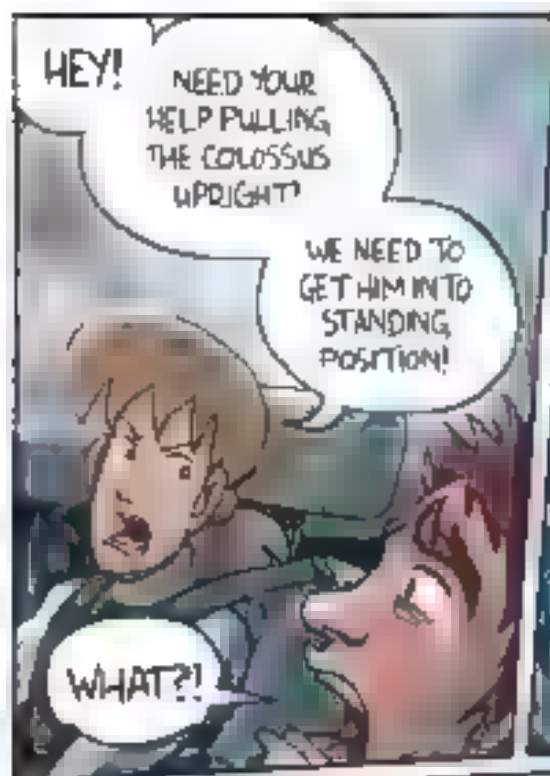
















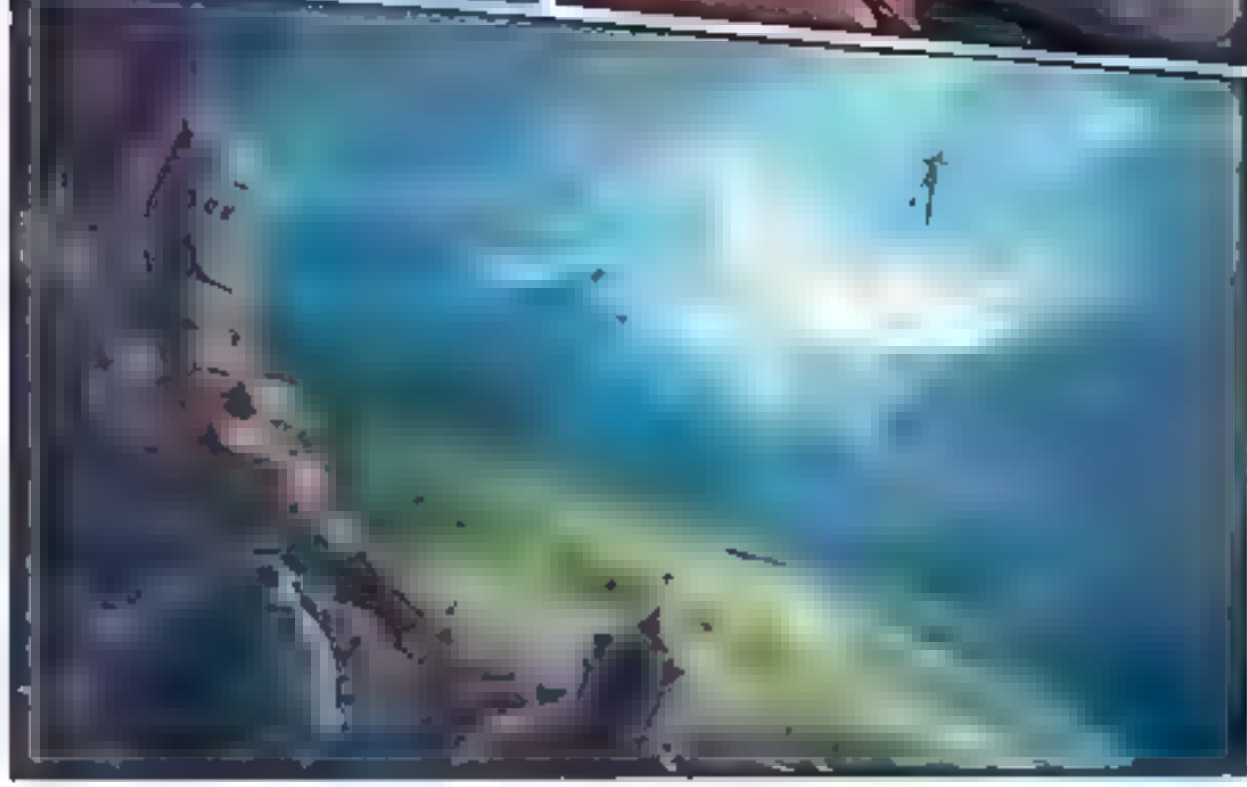
GET READY,  
CAPTAIN!!!



FIVE SECONDS  
TO GO...

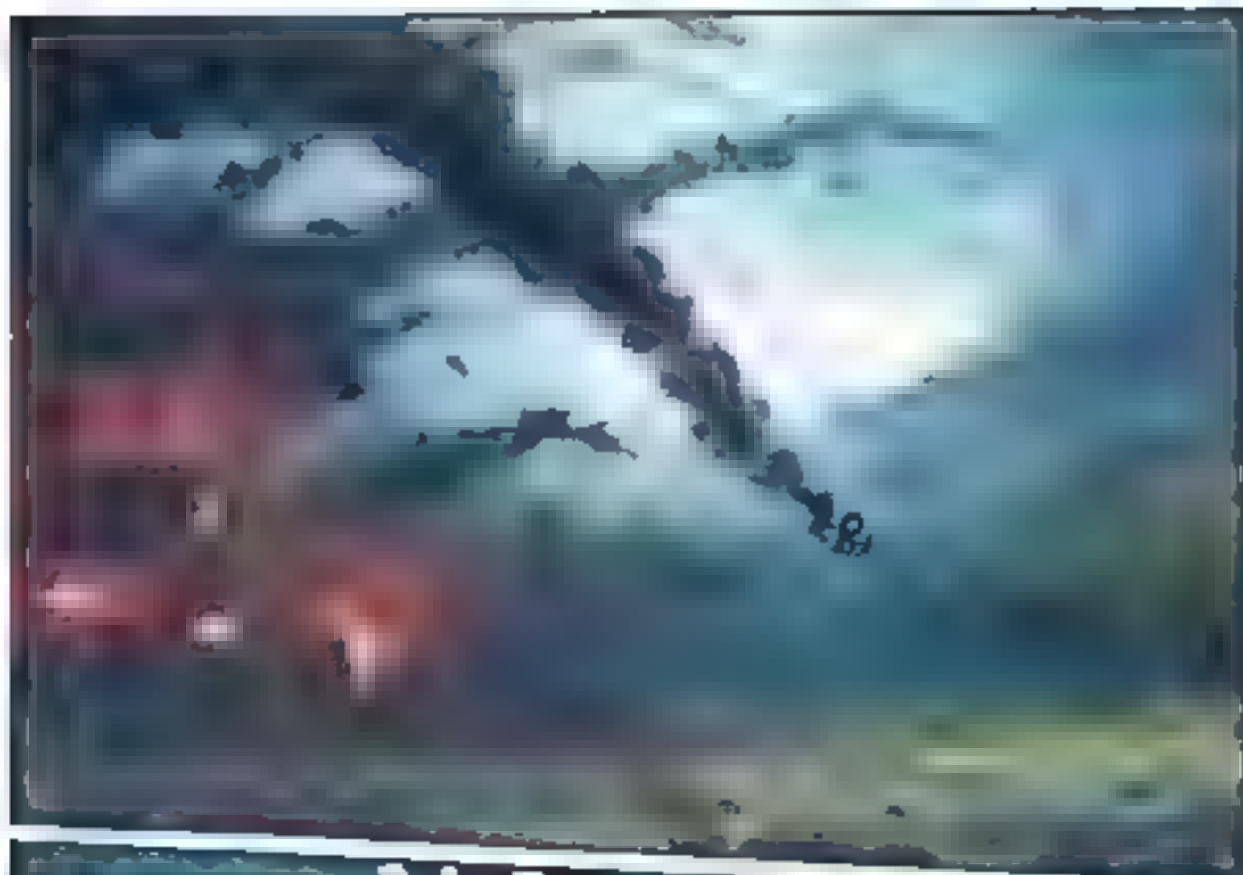


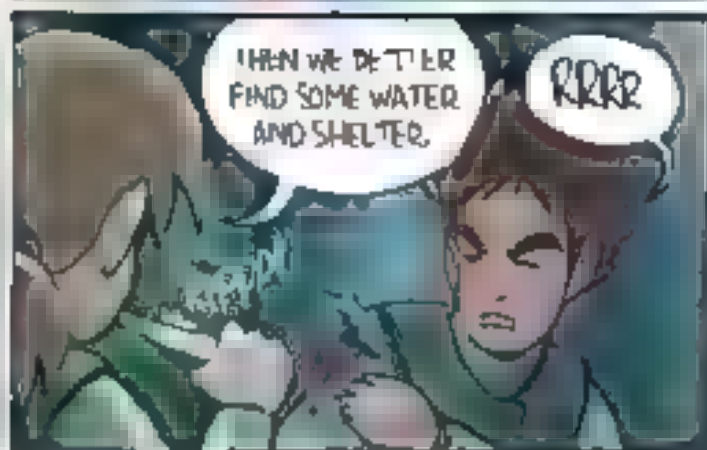
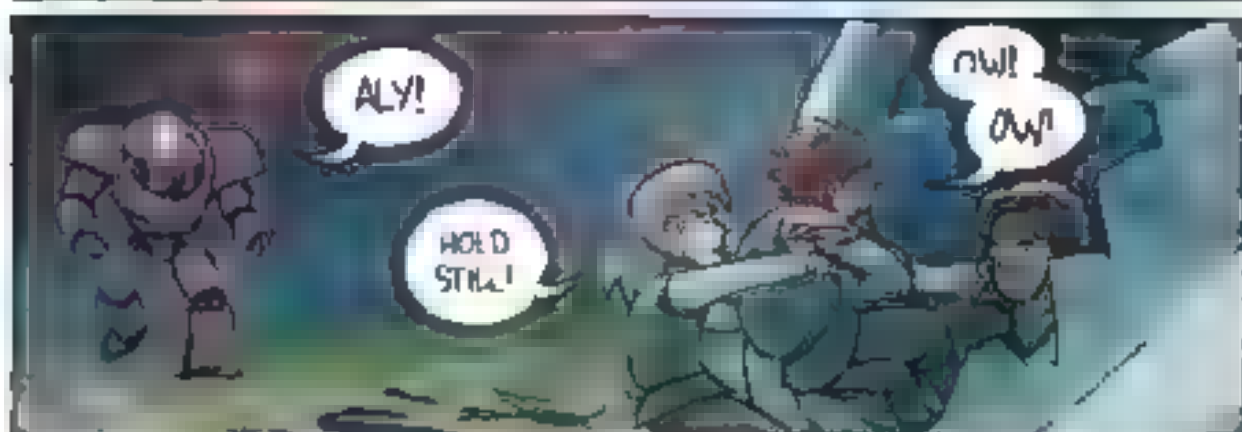
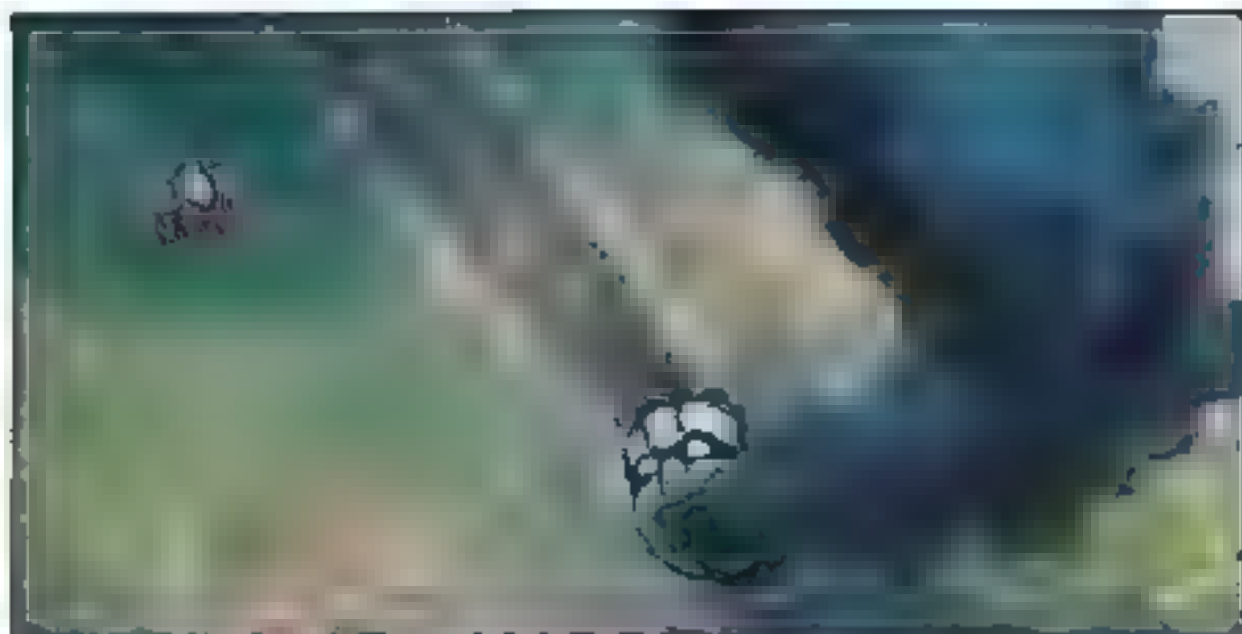
HOLD ON,  
NAVIN!!



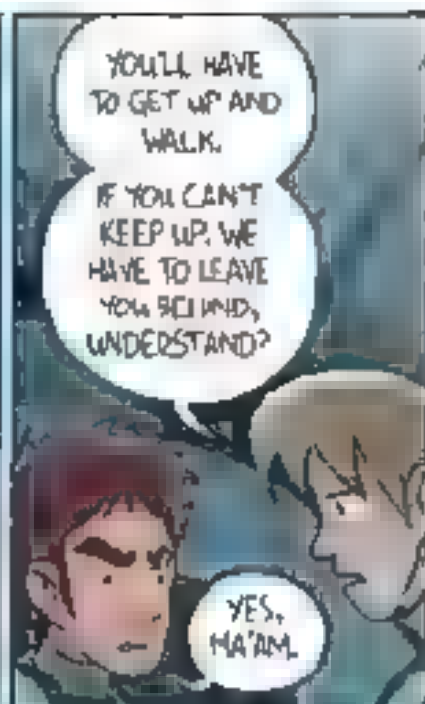












YOU'LL HAVE  
TO GET UP AND  
WALK.

IF YOU CAN'T  
KEEP UP, WE  
HAVE TO LEAVE  
YOU BEHIND,  
UNDERSTAND?

YES,  
M'AM.



AW, WHAT?  
IT'S RAINING!  
YOU GOTTA BE  
KIDDING!



MORE BAD  
NEWS.

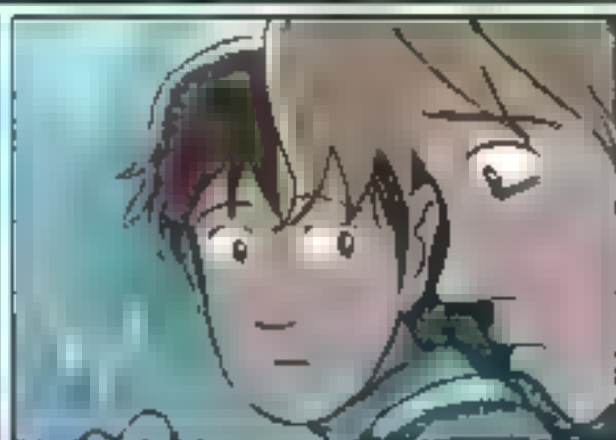
THE LOADERBOT  
IS LOW ON FUEL,  
SO WE'RE GOING TO  
HAVE TO ABANDON  
IT.

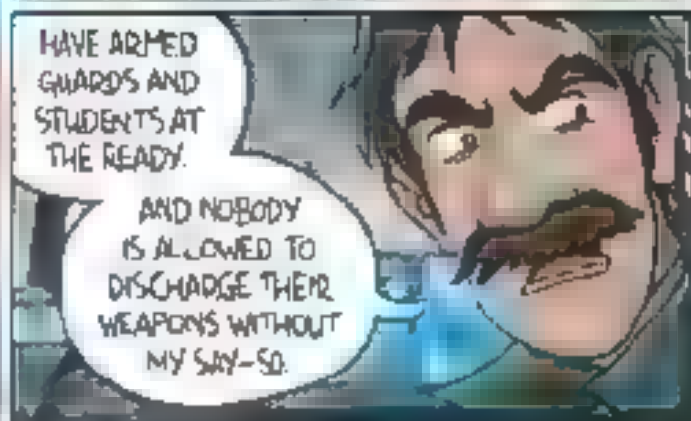
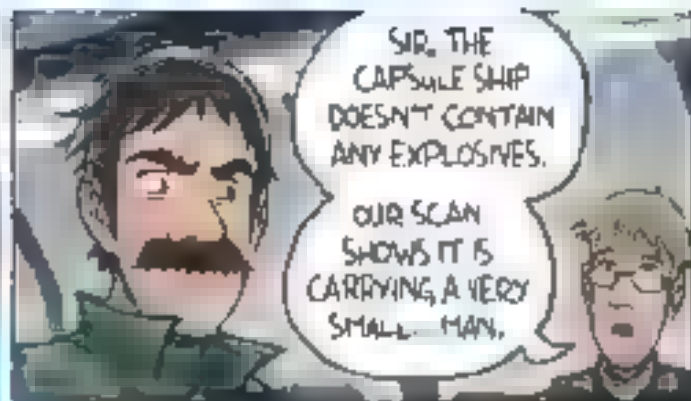
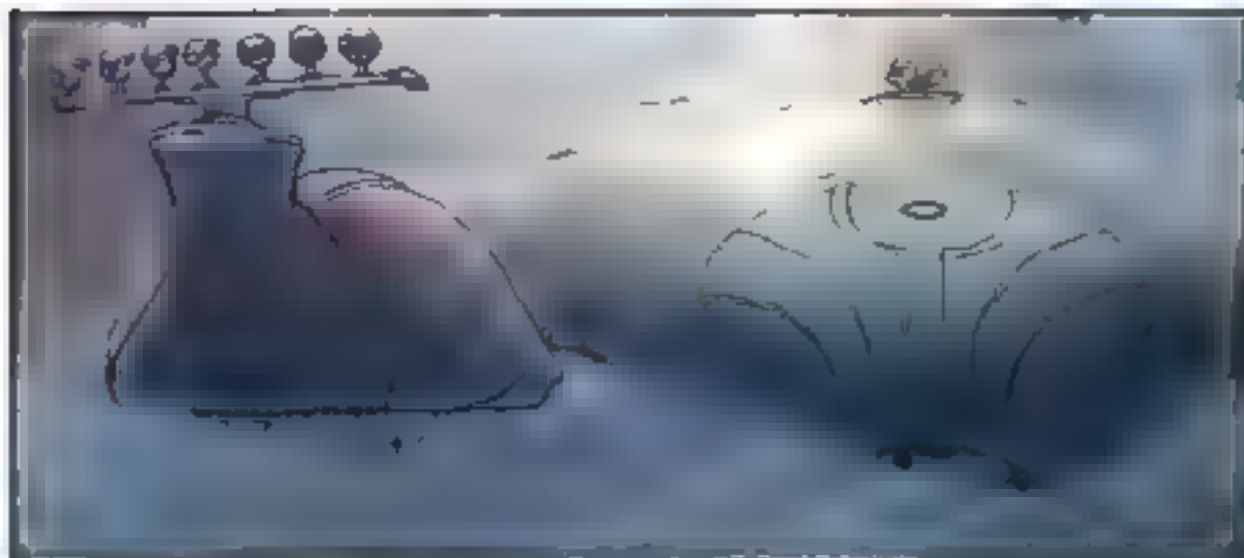


THAT MEANS  
WE'LL BE LEFT  
WITH NOTHING.  
NO WEAPONS.  
NO TOOLS.

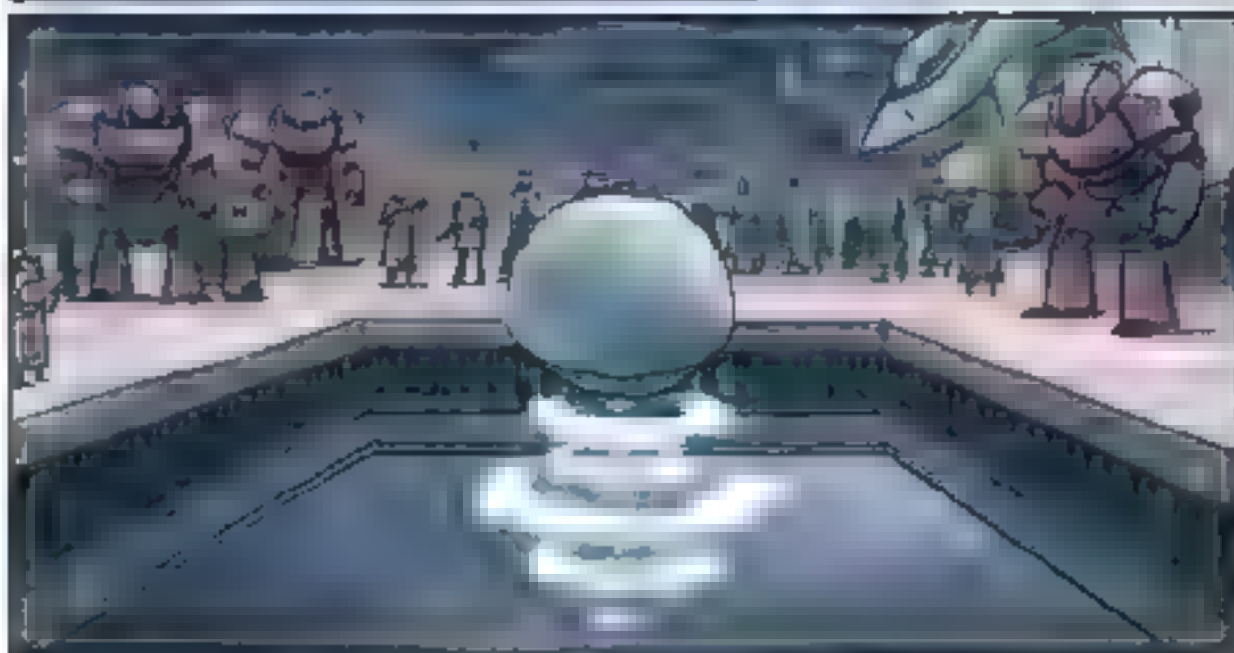
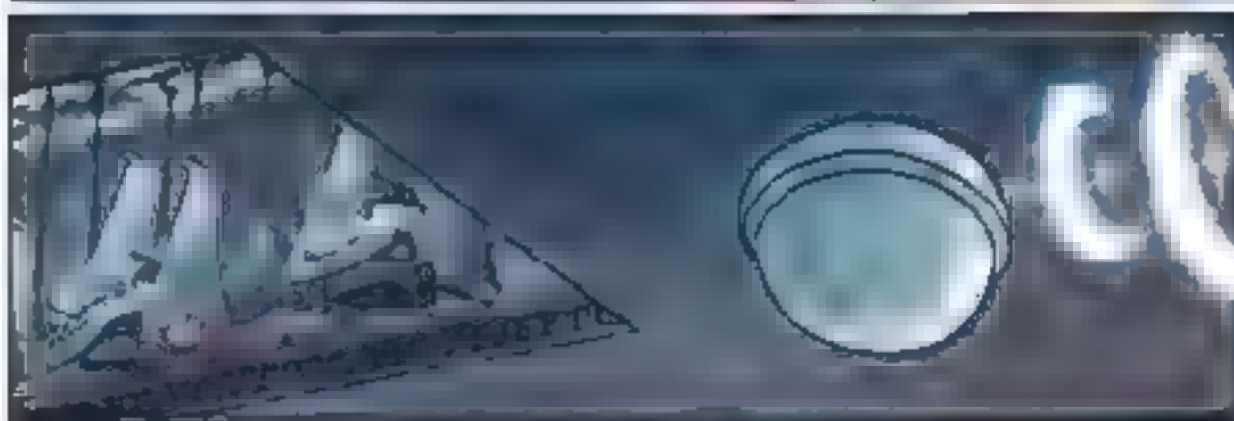


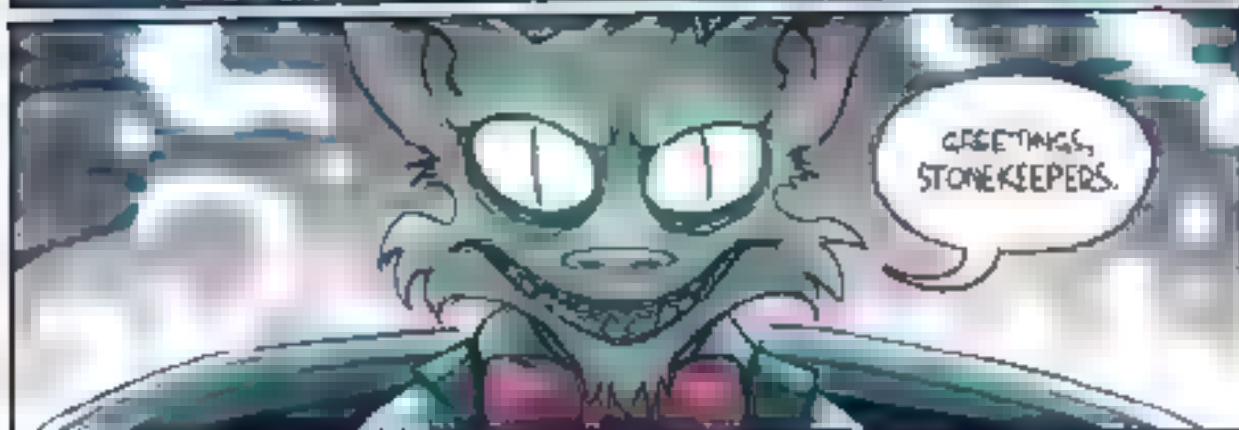
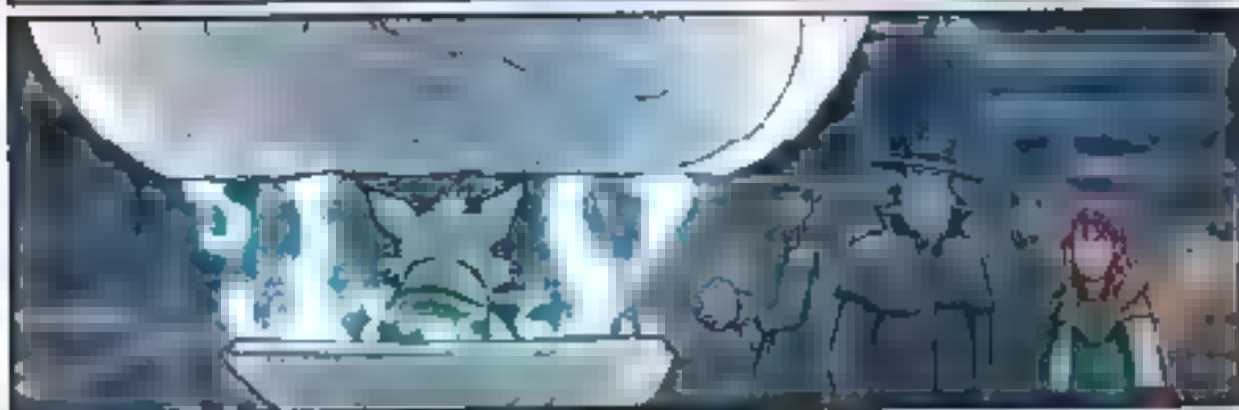
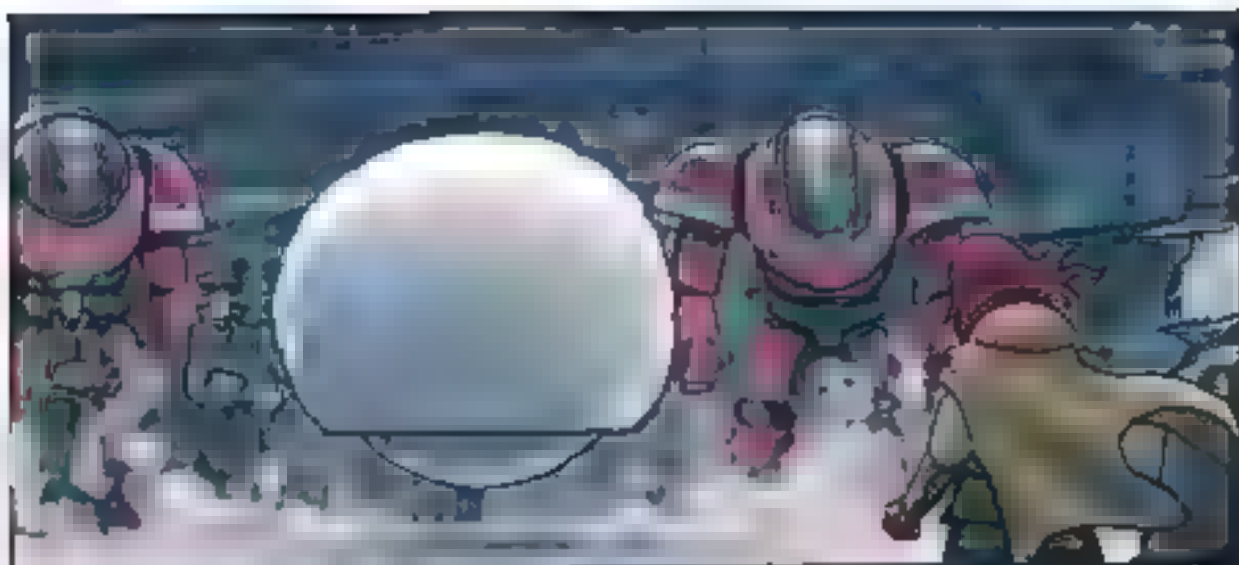
AT LEAST  
WE STILL HAVE  
FOOD RATIONS.

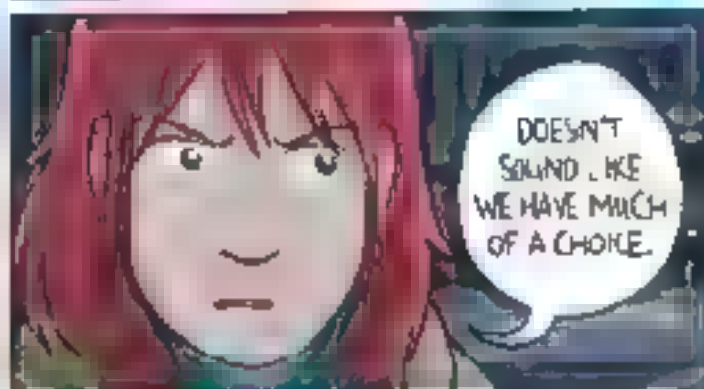
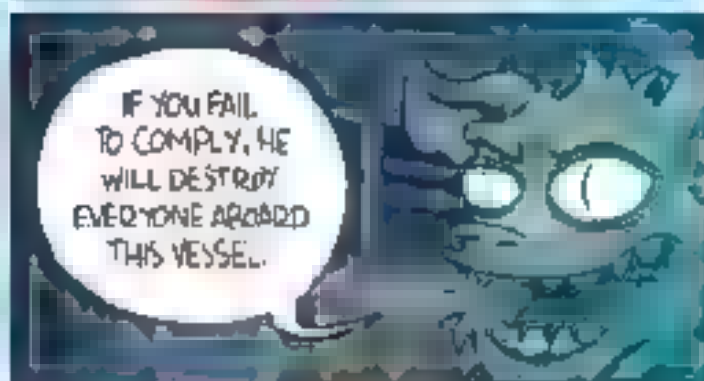




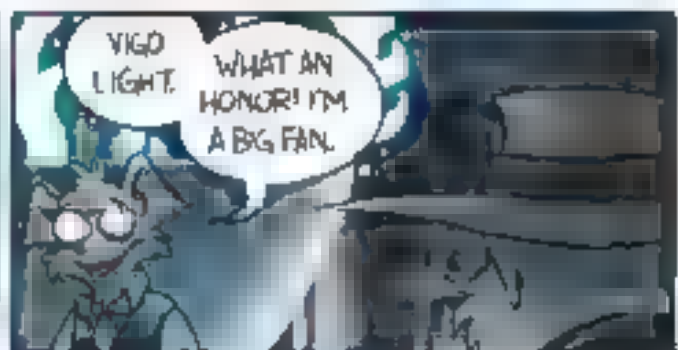
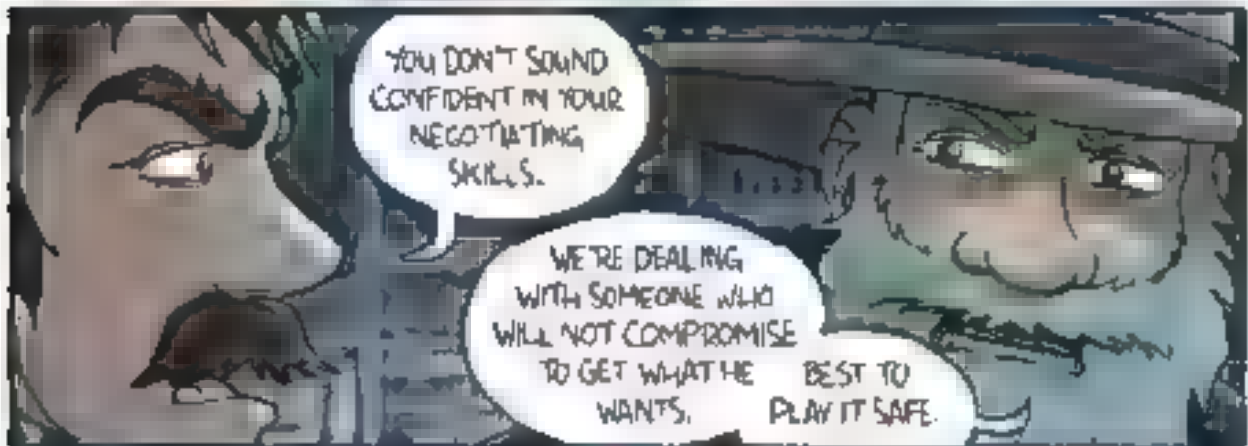


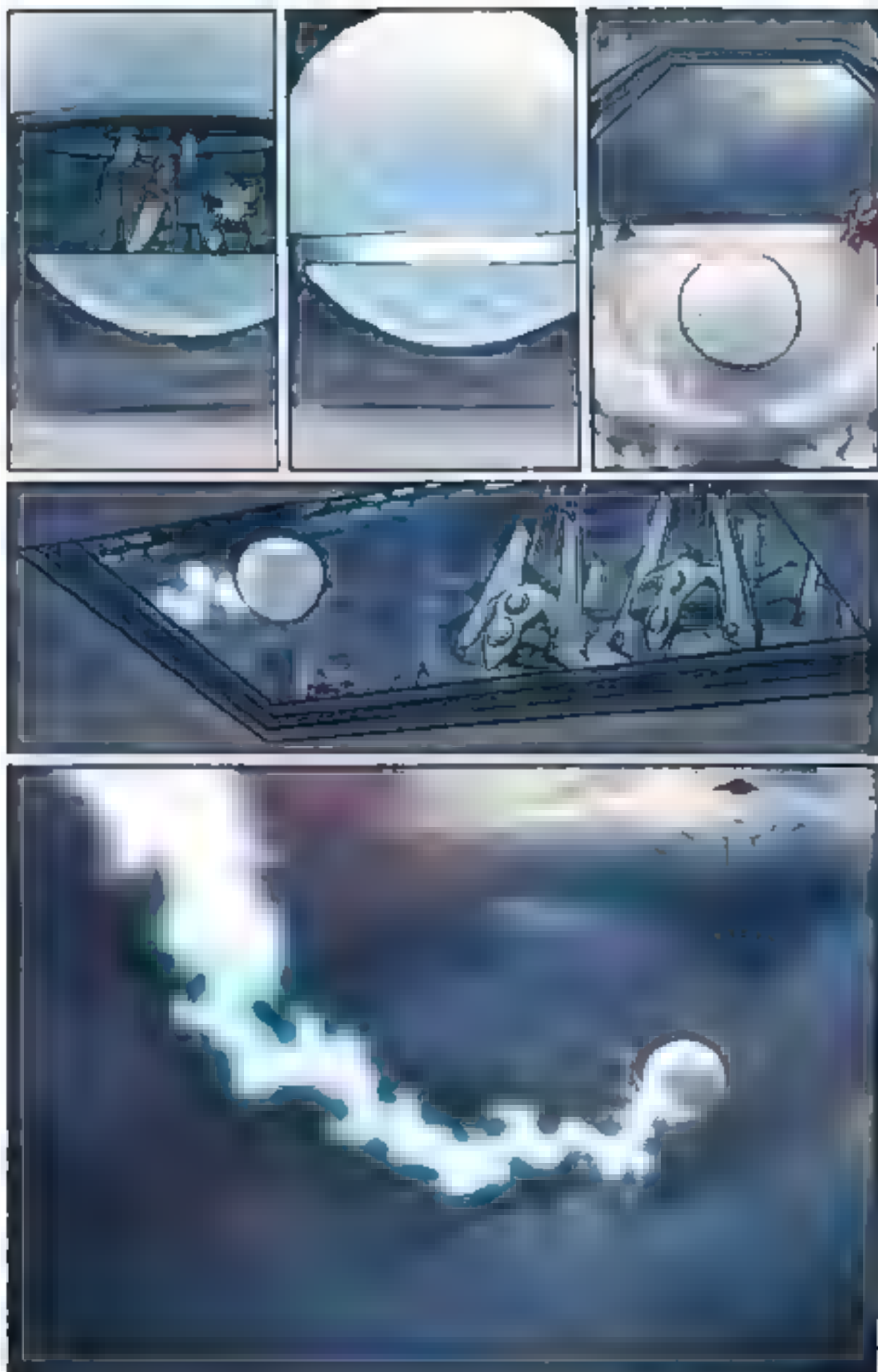


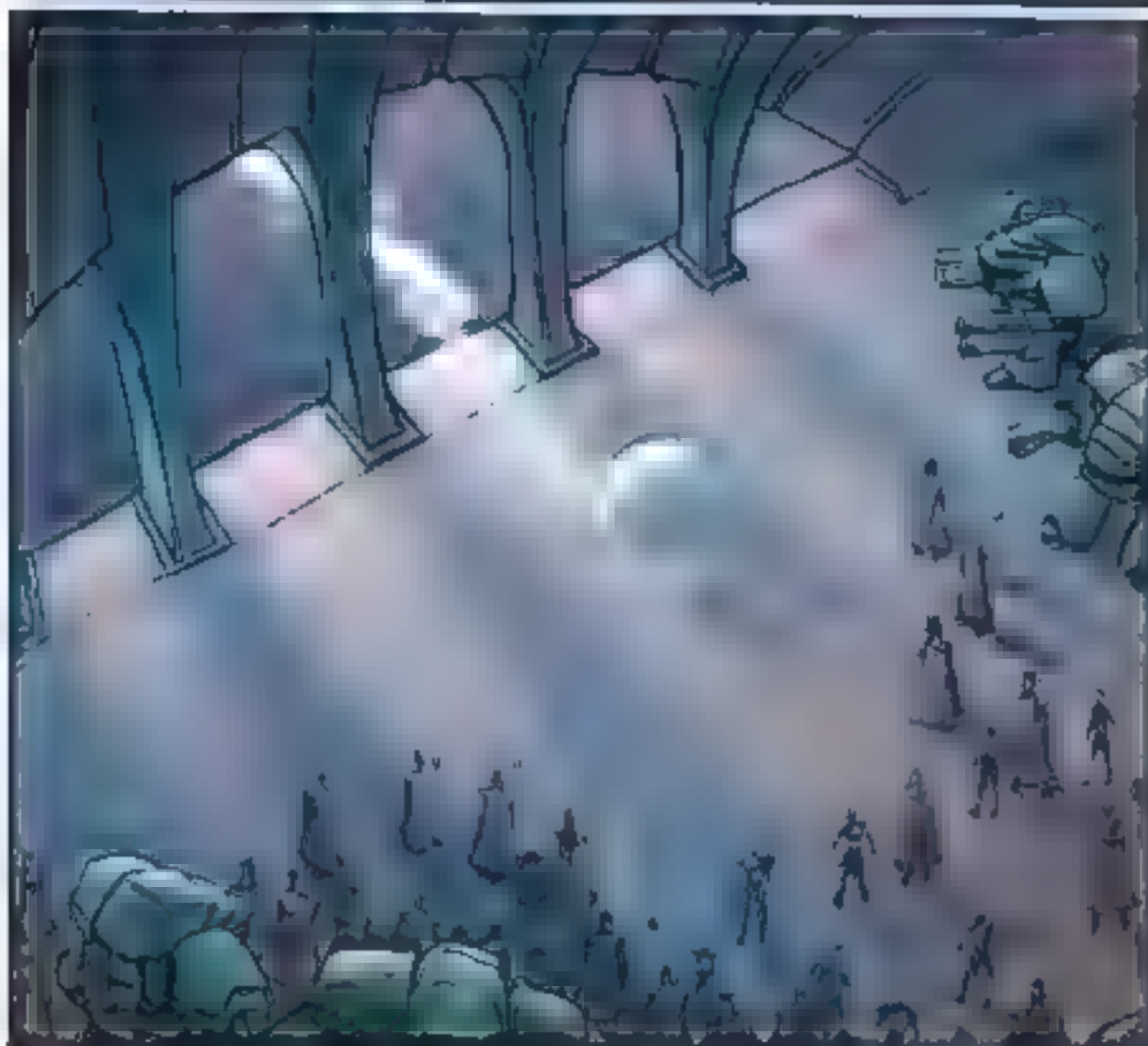
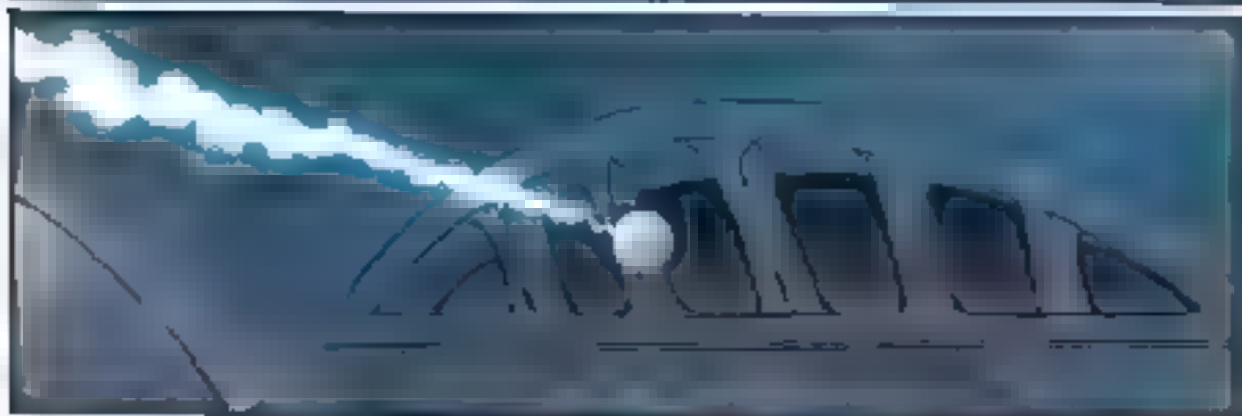




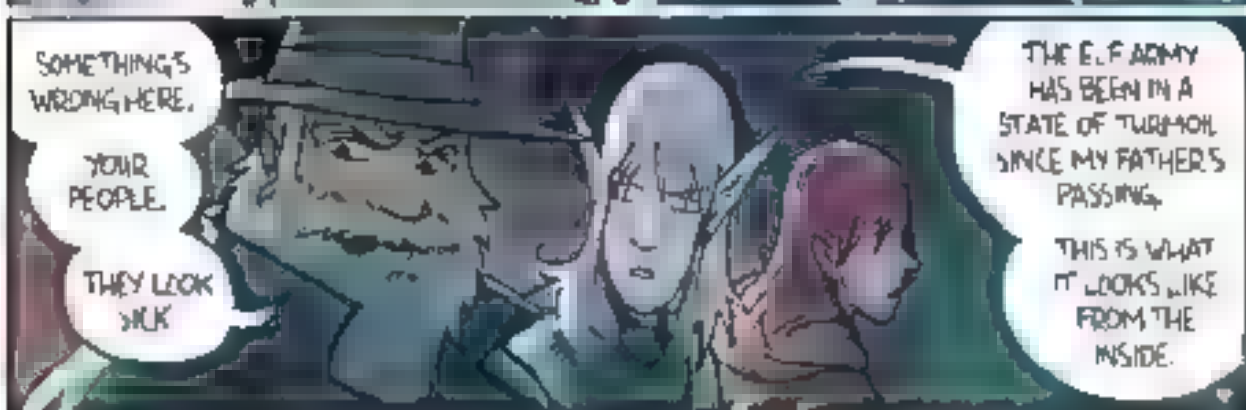
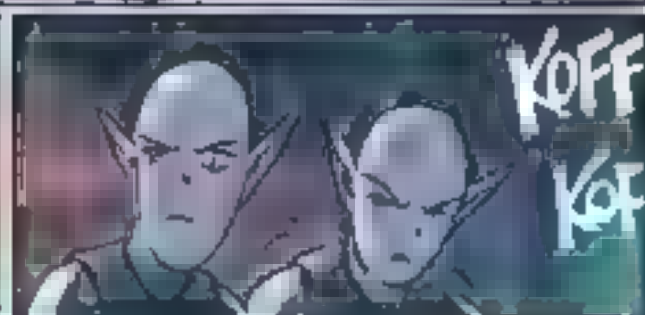
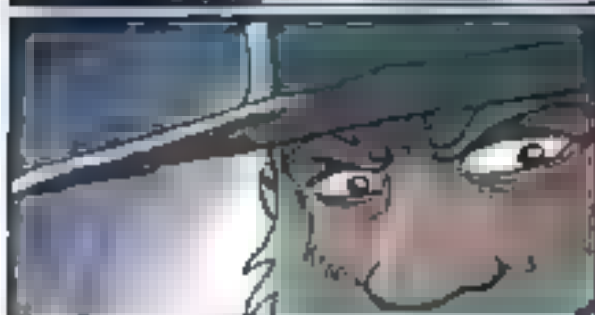
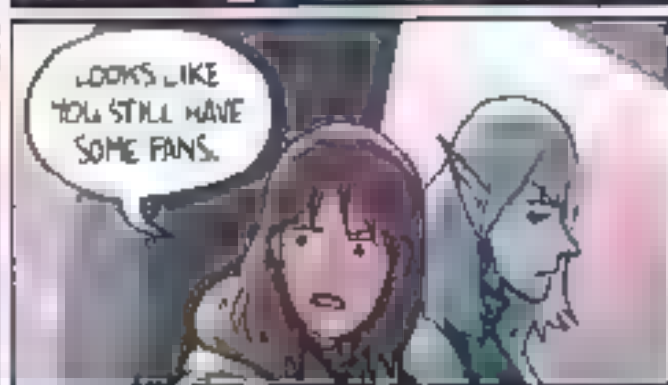
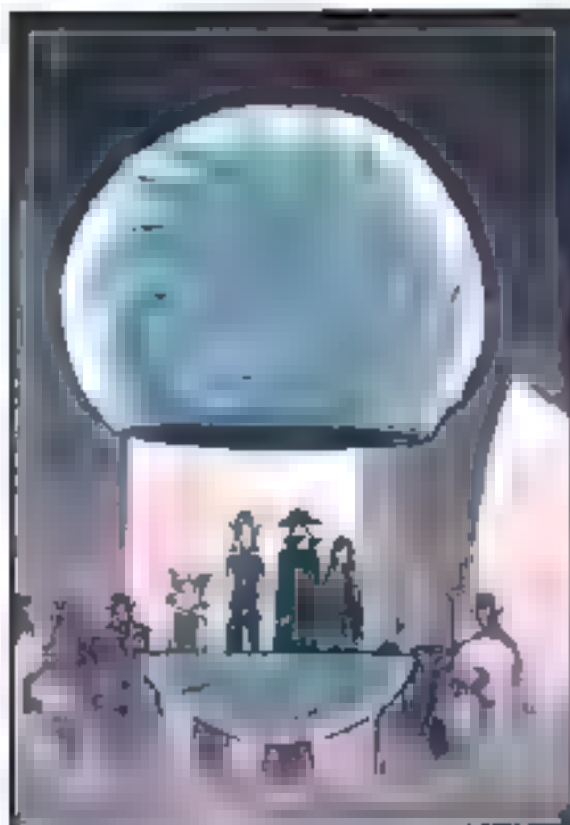


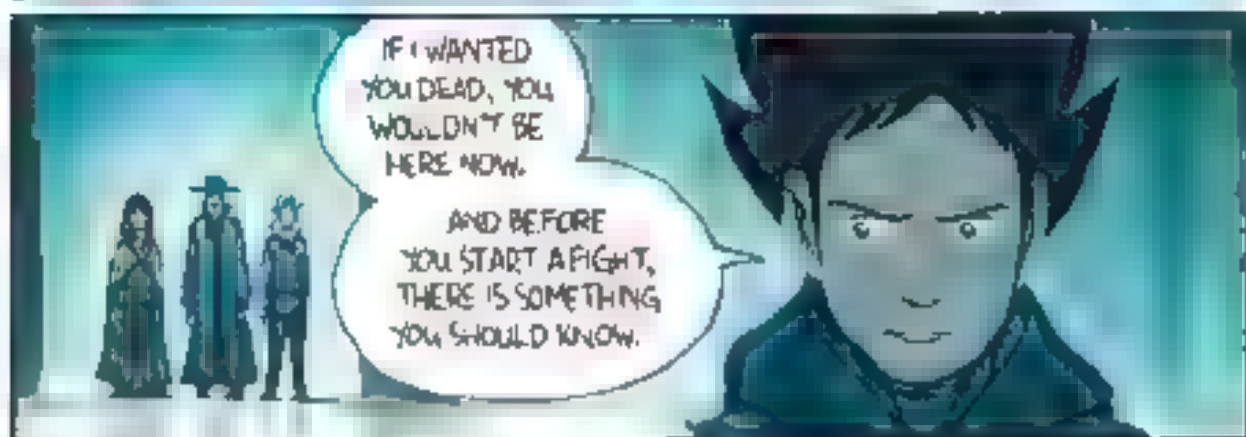
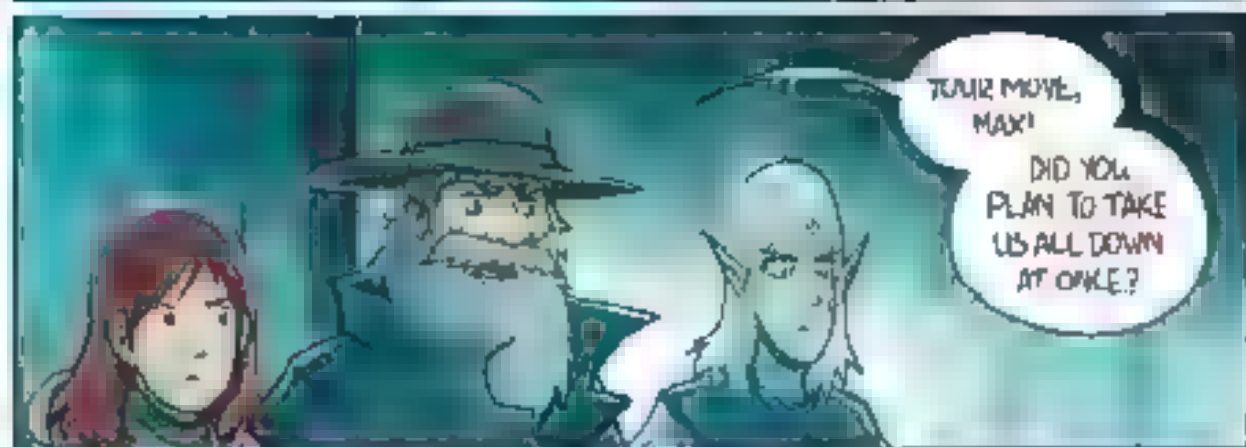






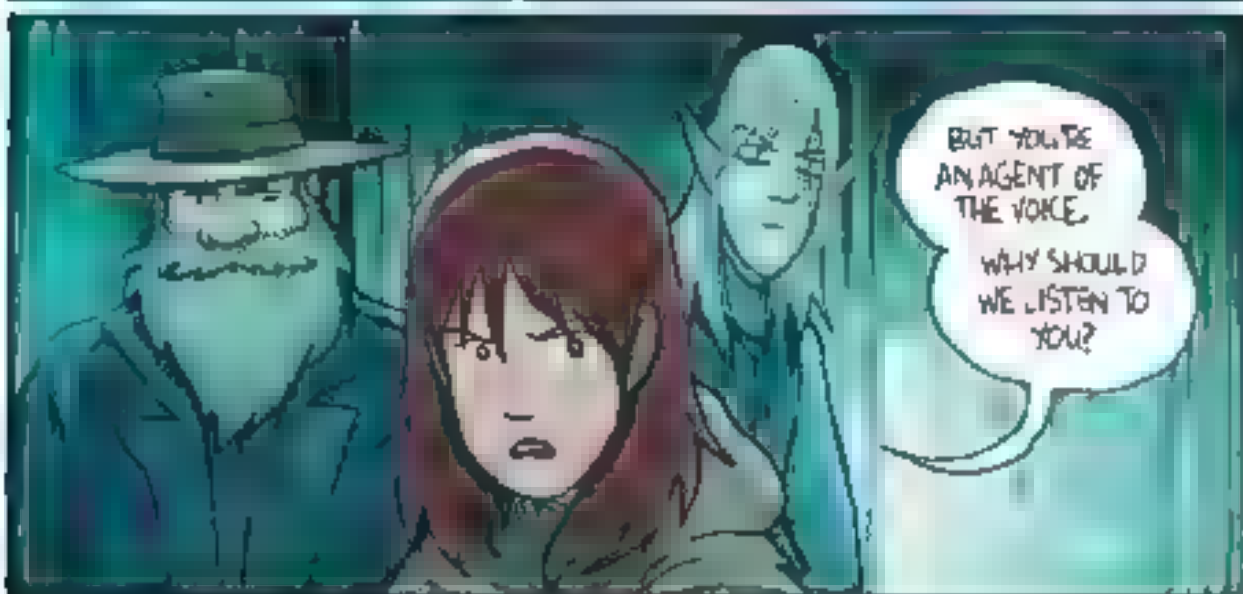
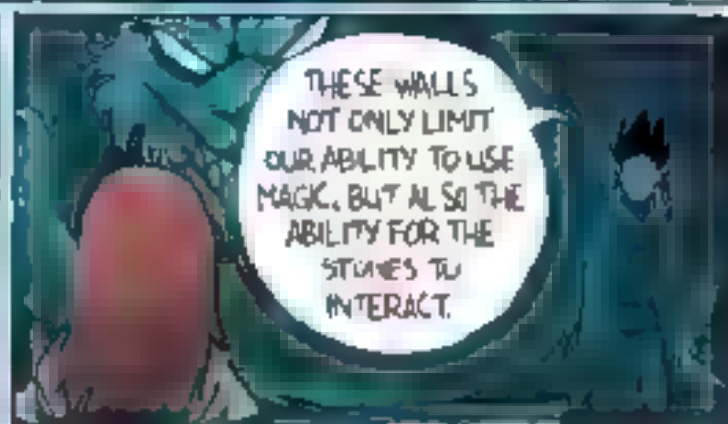
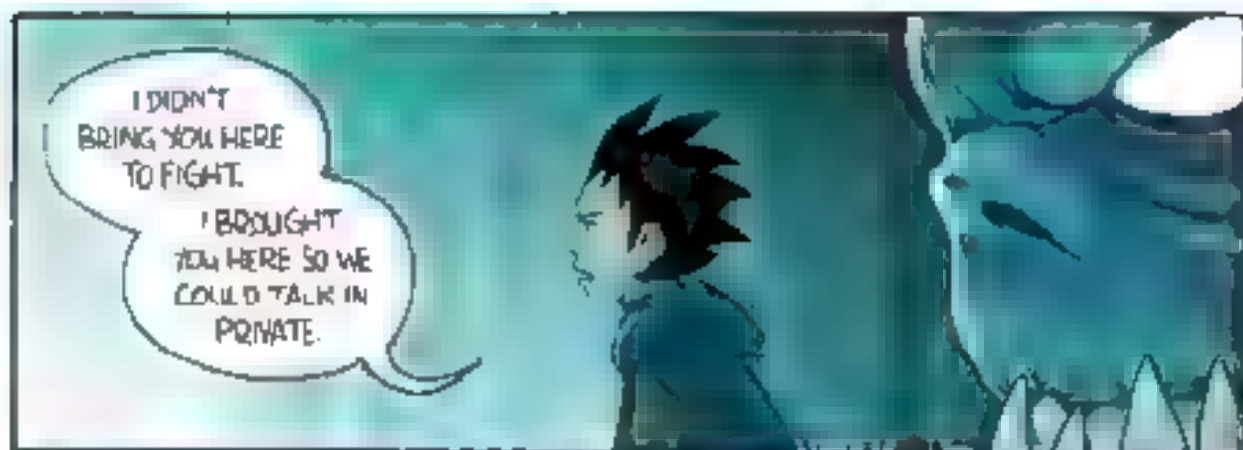






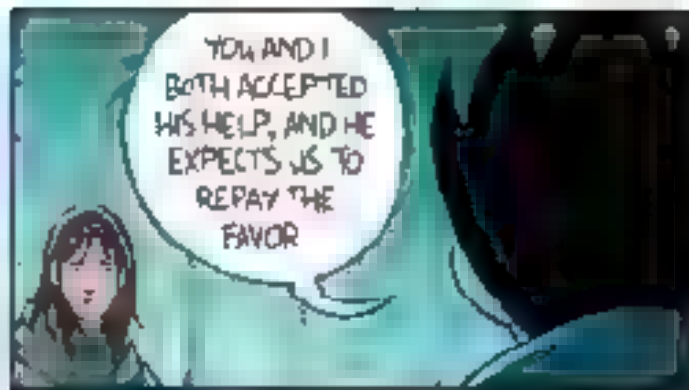




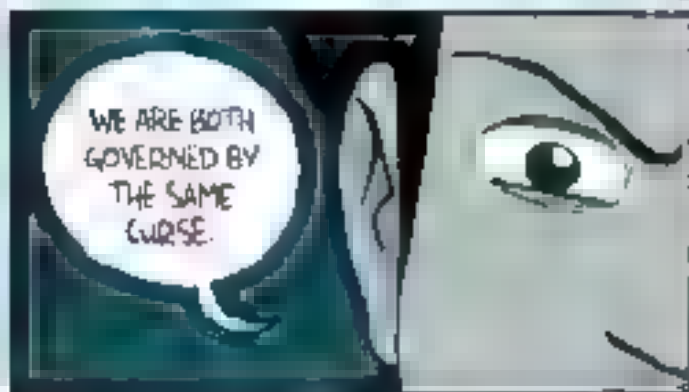




I AM AS MUCH  
AN AGENT AS  
YOU ARE, EMILY



YOU AND I  
BOTH ACCEPTED  
HIS HELP, AND HE  
EXPECTS US TO  
REPAY THE  
FAVOR

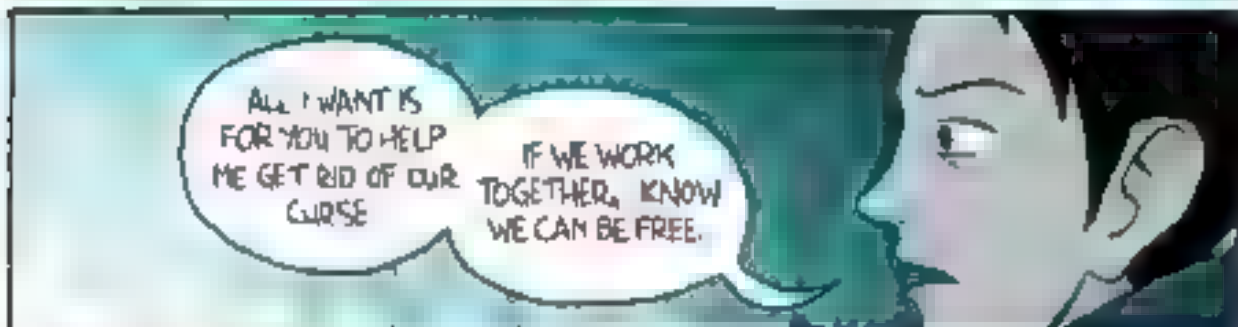


WE ARE BOTH  
GOVERNED BY  
THE SAME  
CURSE.



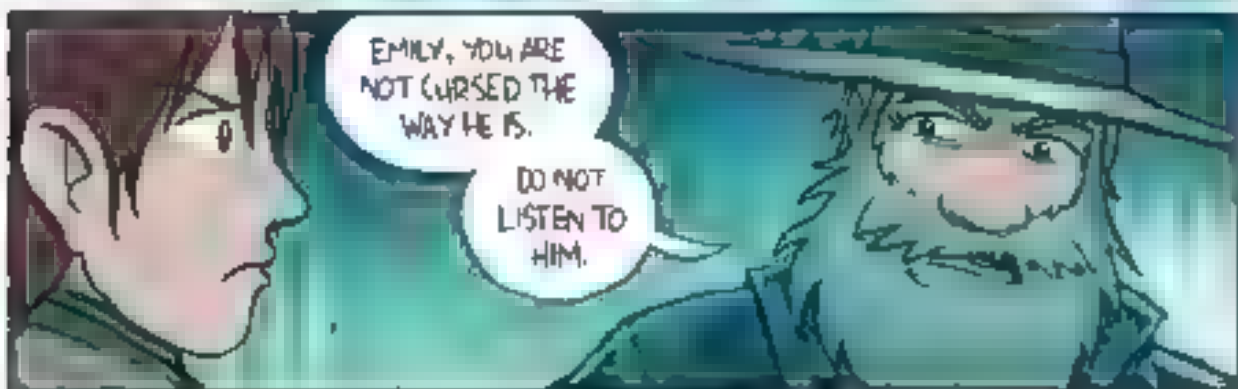
WHAT DO YOU  
WANT FROM ME,  
MAX?

YOU KNOW  
I CAN'T TRUST  
YOU ANYMORE.



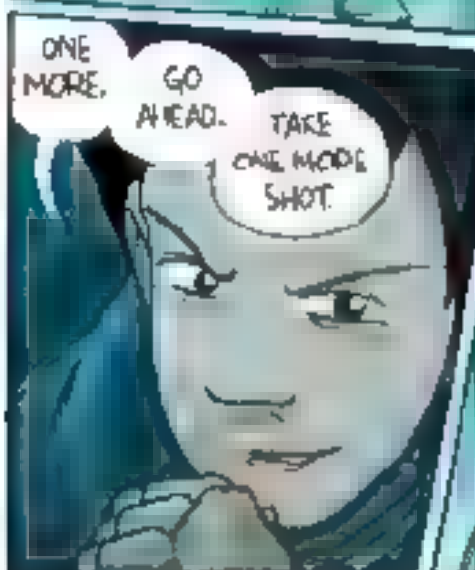
ALL I WANT IS  
FOR YOU TO HELP  
ME GET RID OF OUR  
CURSE

IF WE WORK  
TOGETHER, KNOW  
WE CAN BE FREE.



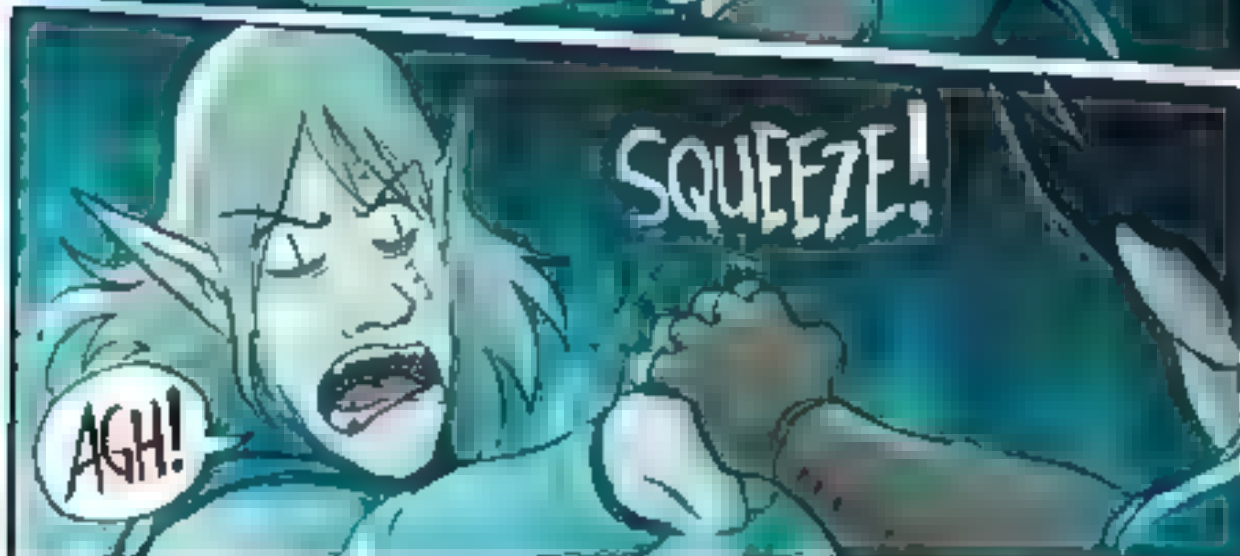
EMILY, YOU ARE  
NOT CURSED THE  
WAY HE IS.

DO NOT  
LISTEN TO  
HIM.





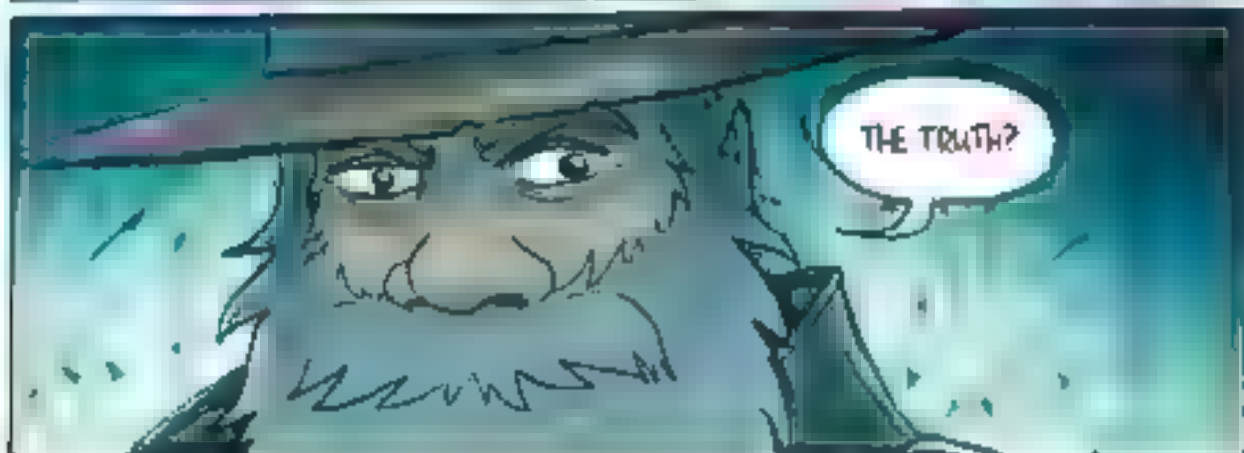
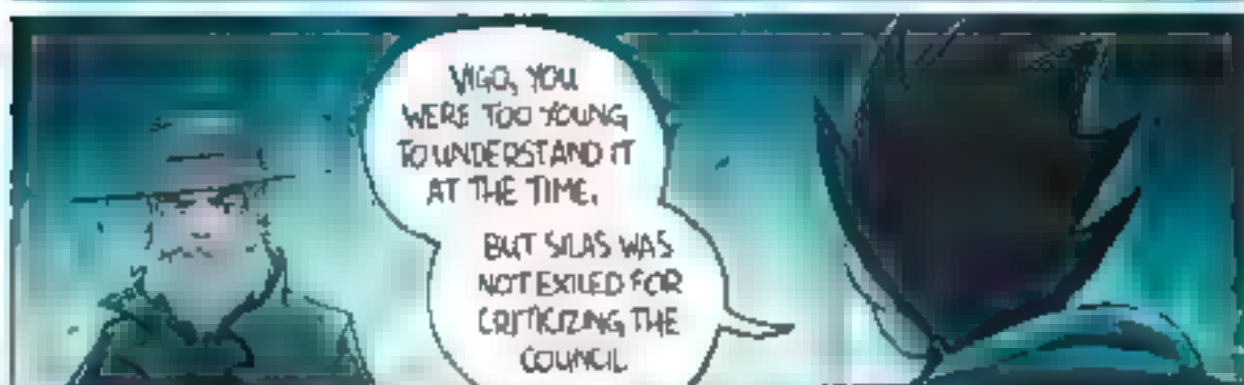






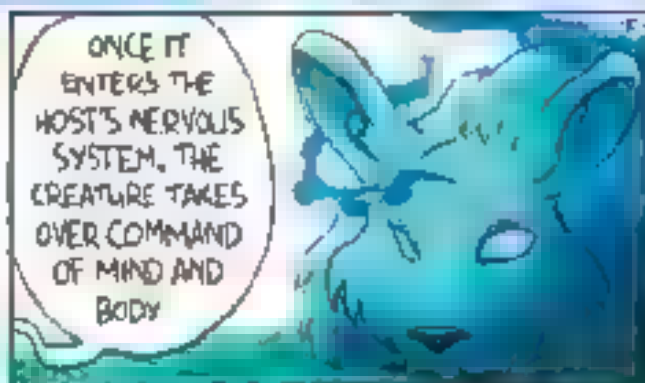
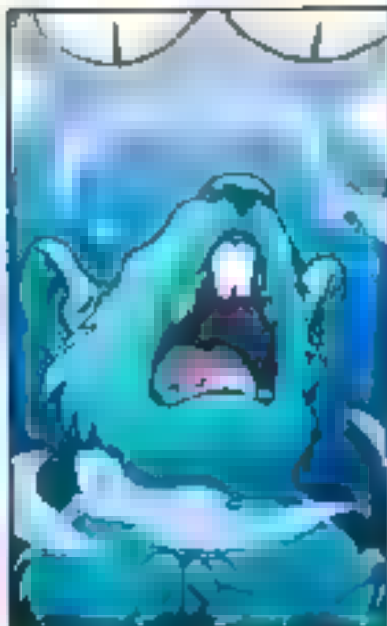


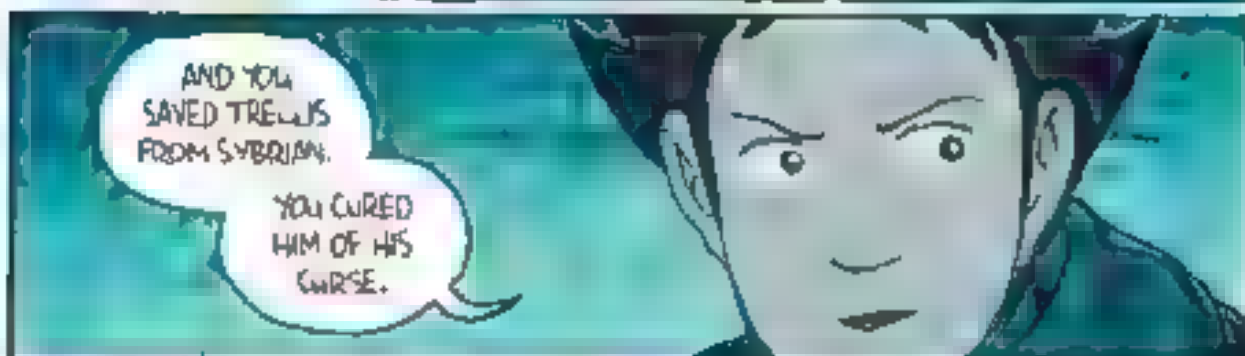
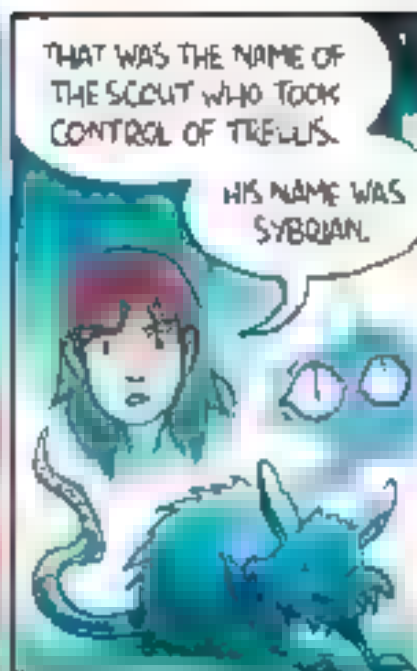
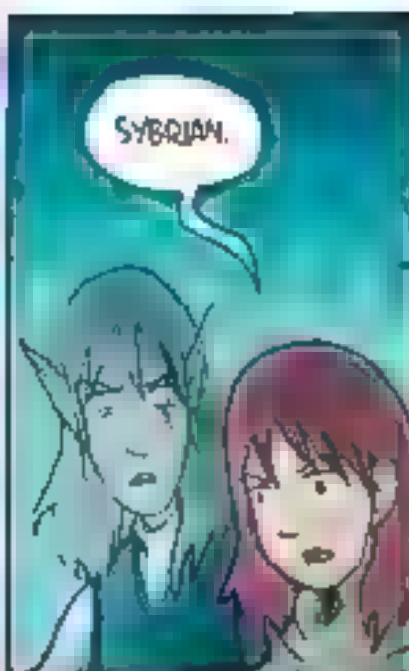
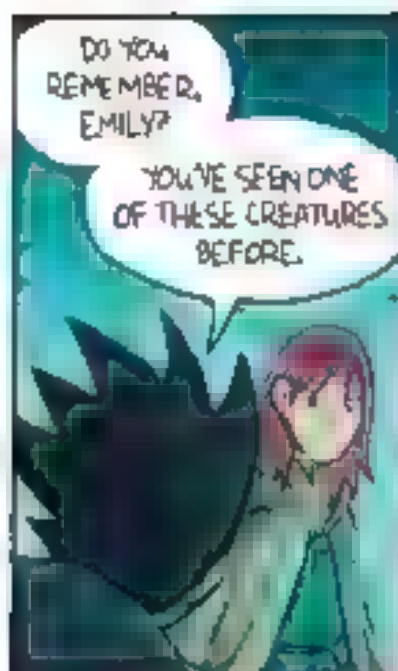


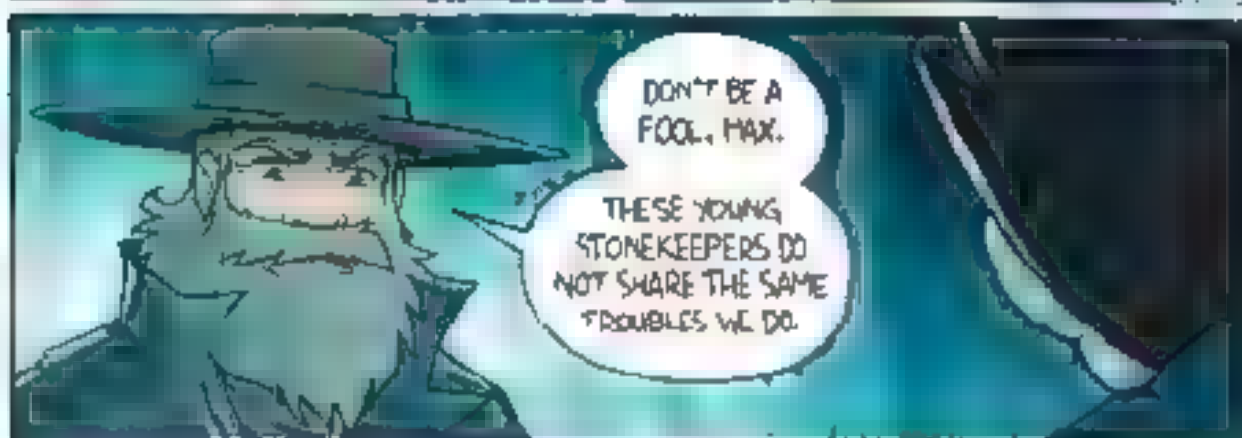
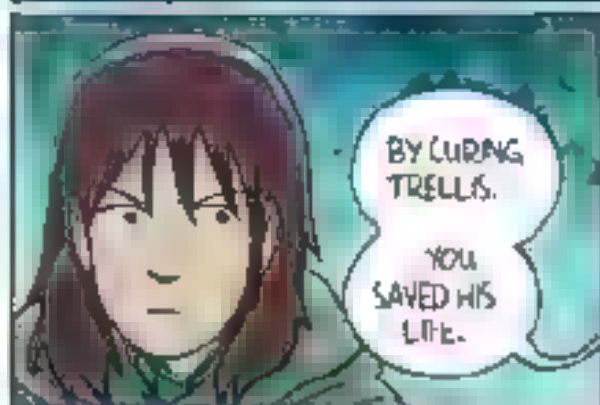
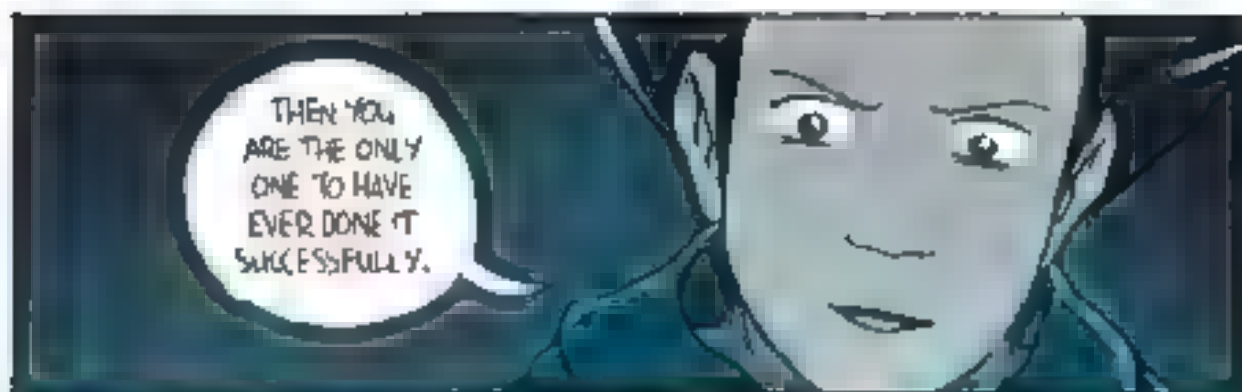




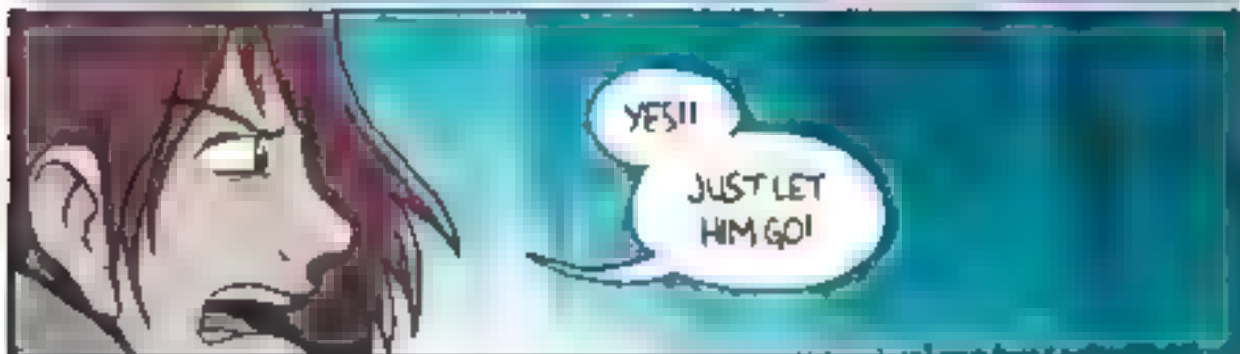
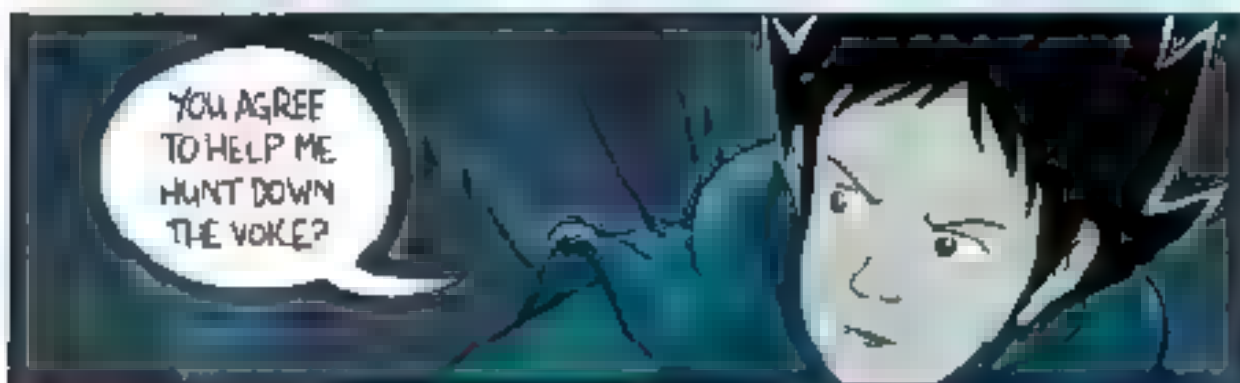


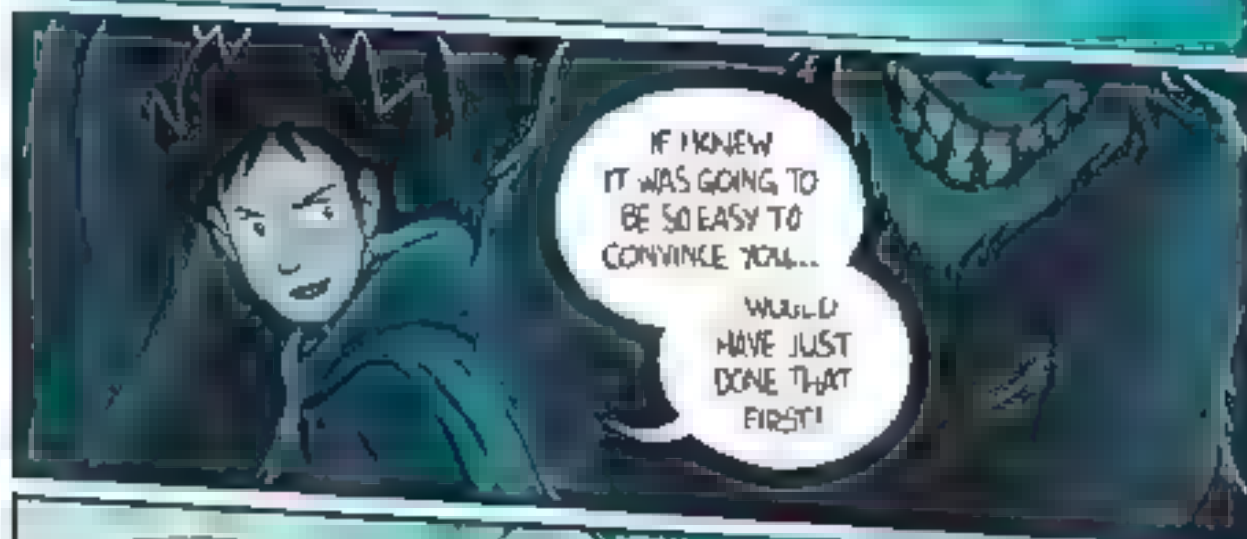


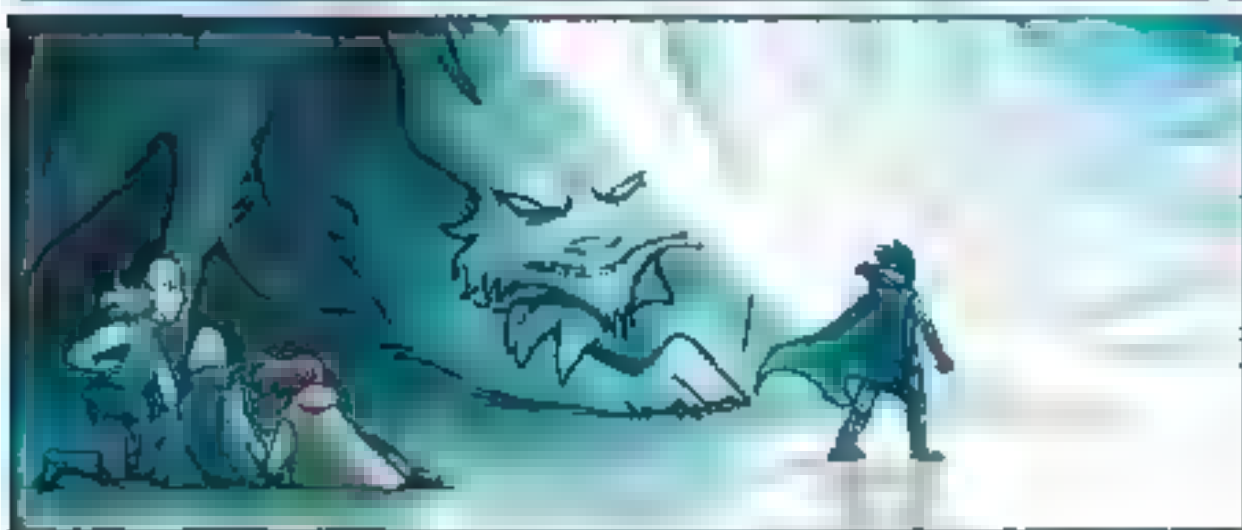
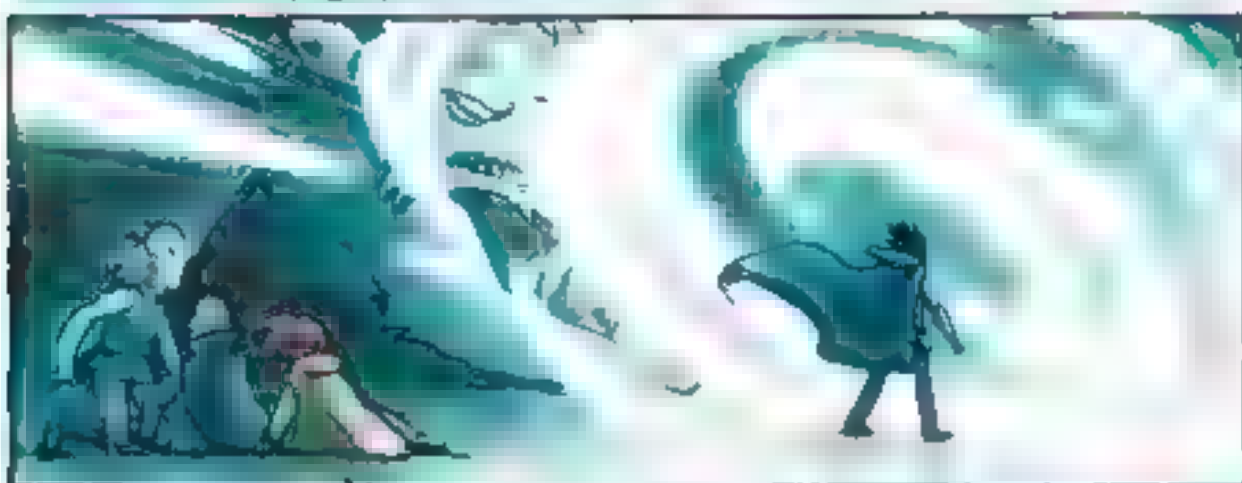
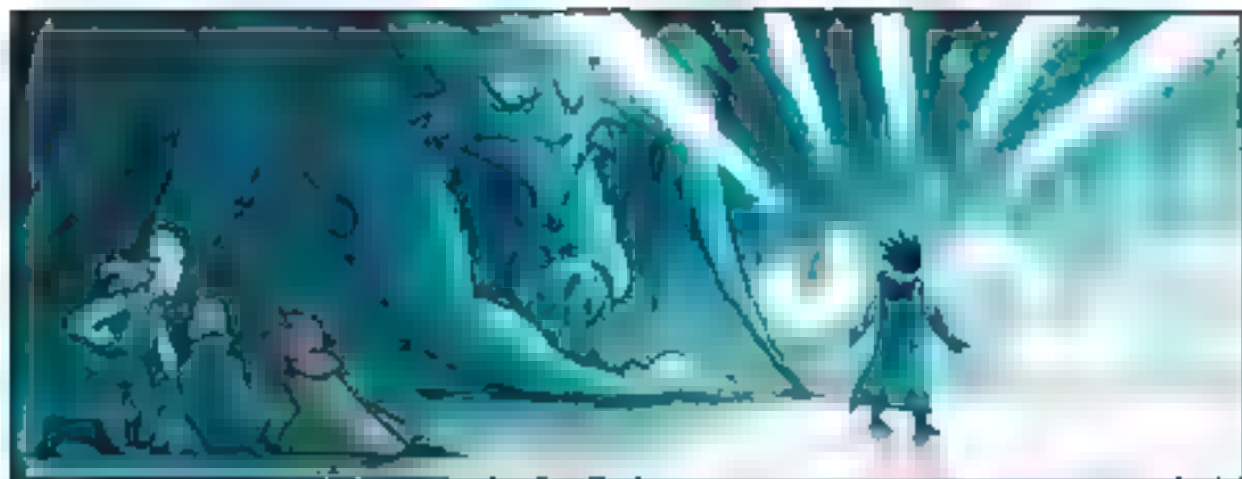




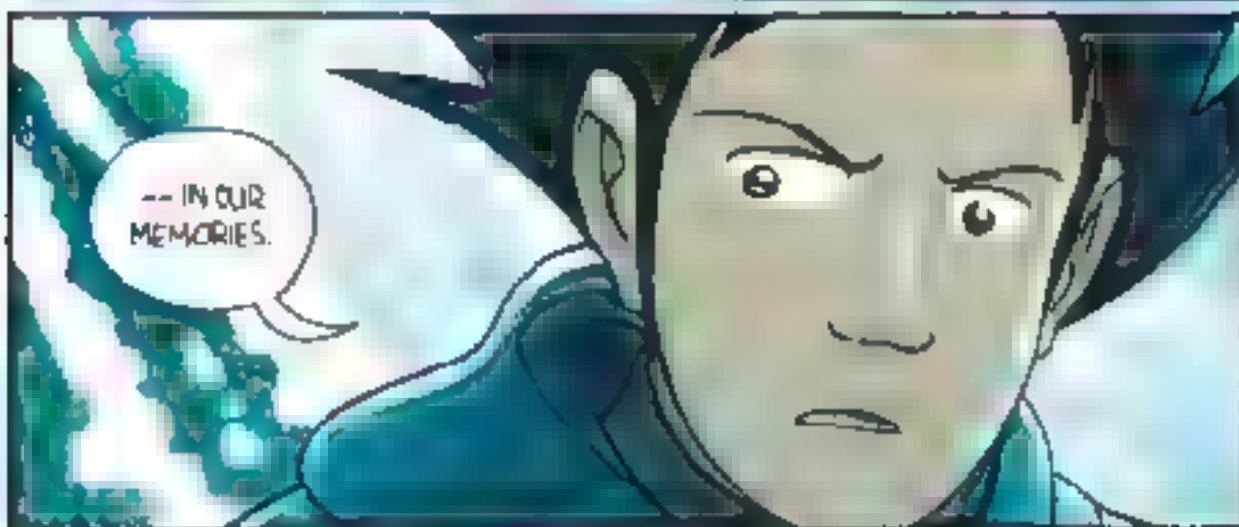
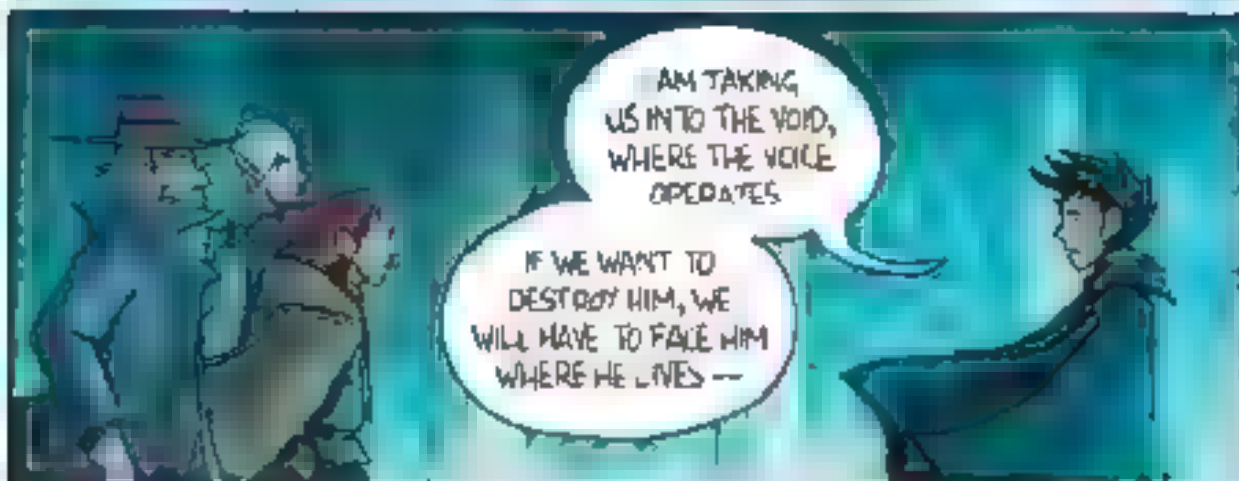
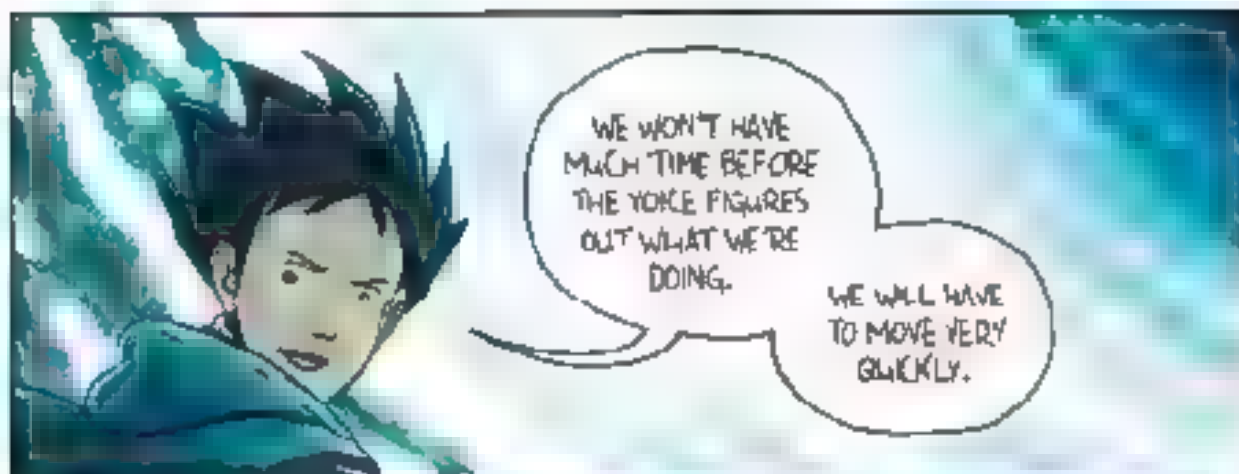














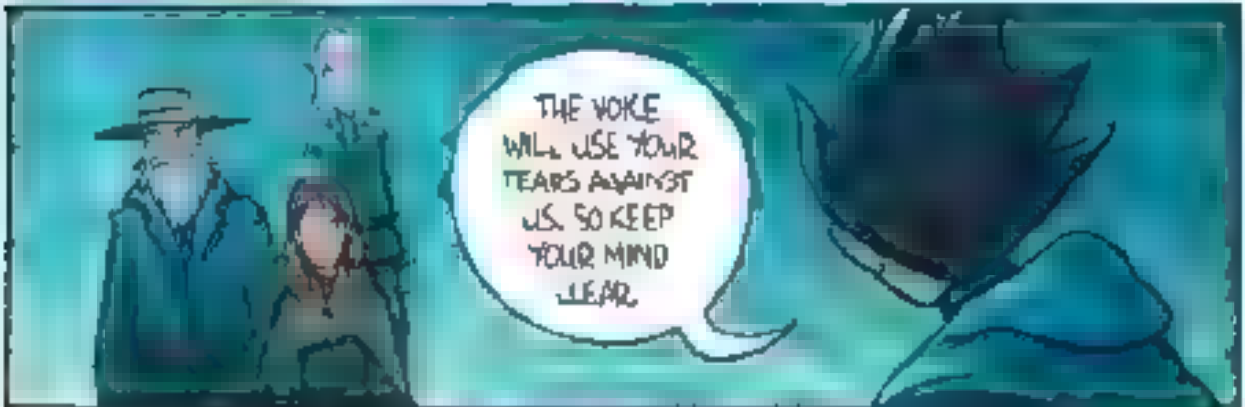
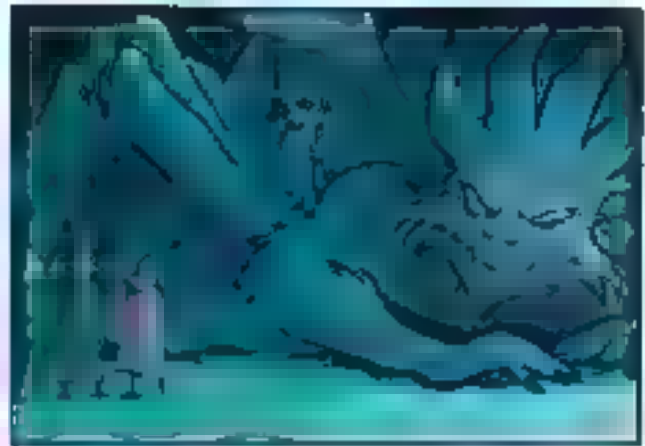
CHRONOS,  
IF THIS IS TO  
BE OUR LAST  
RIDE,

LET'S  
MAKE IT A  
GOOD ONE

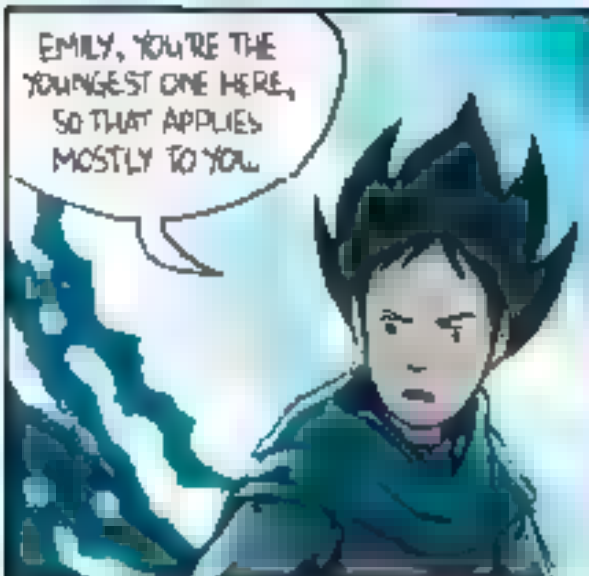
AGREED.



IT HAS BEEN  
AN HONOR  
SERVING YOU,  
SIR.



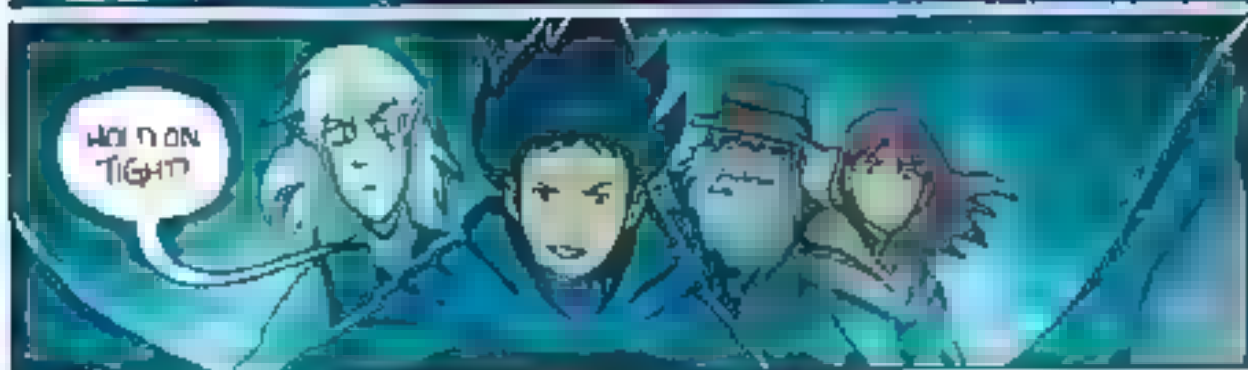
THE VOKE  
WILL USE YOUR  
TEARS AGAINST  
US. SO KEEP  
YOUR MIND  
CLEAR.



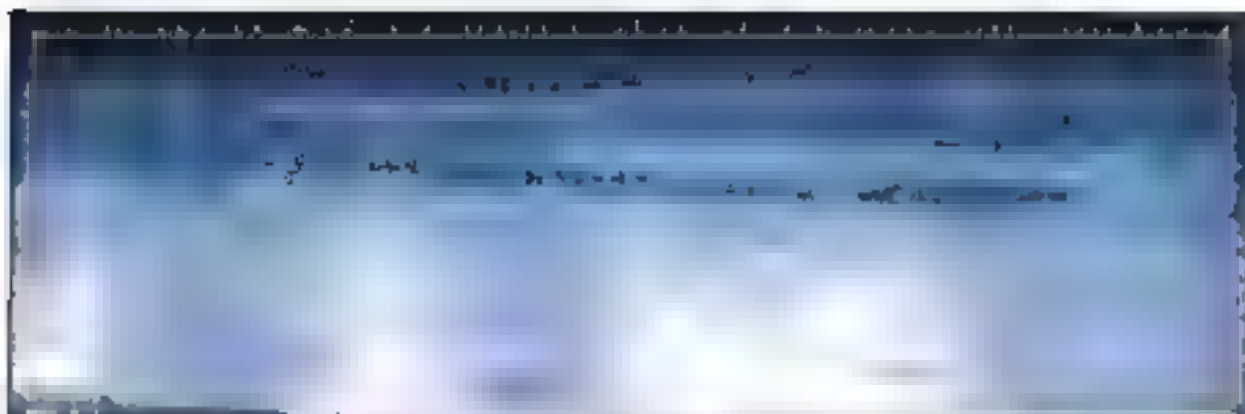
EMILY, YOU'RE THE  
YOUNGEST ONE HERE,  
SO THAT APPLIES  
MOSTLY TO YOU.

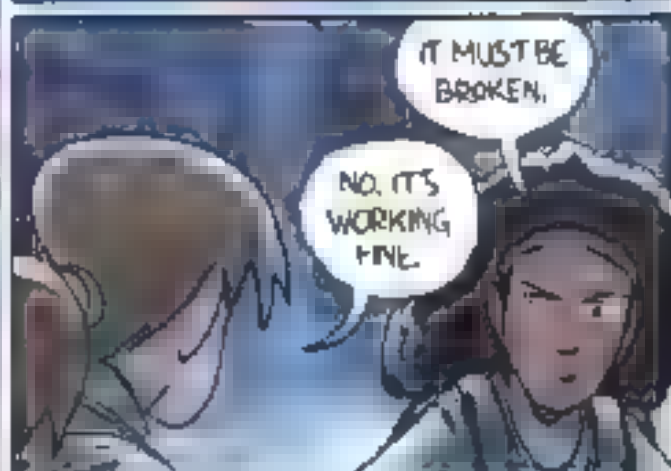


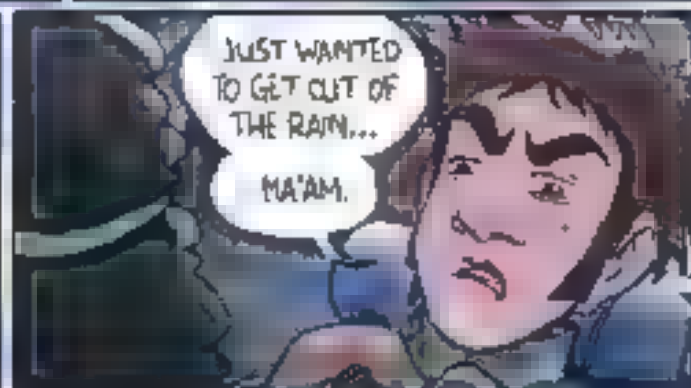
CAN  
HANDLE  
IT.

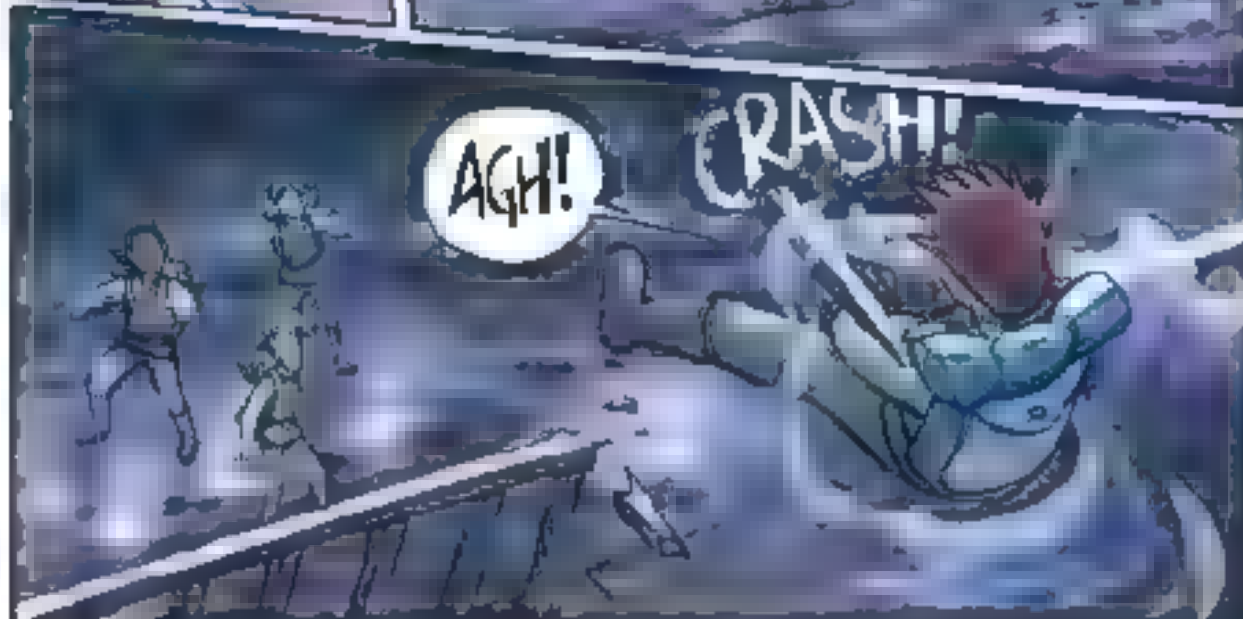
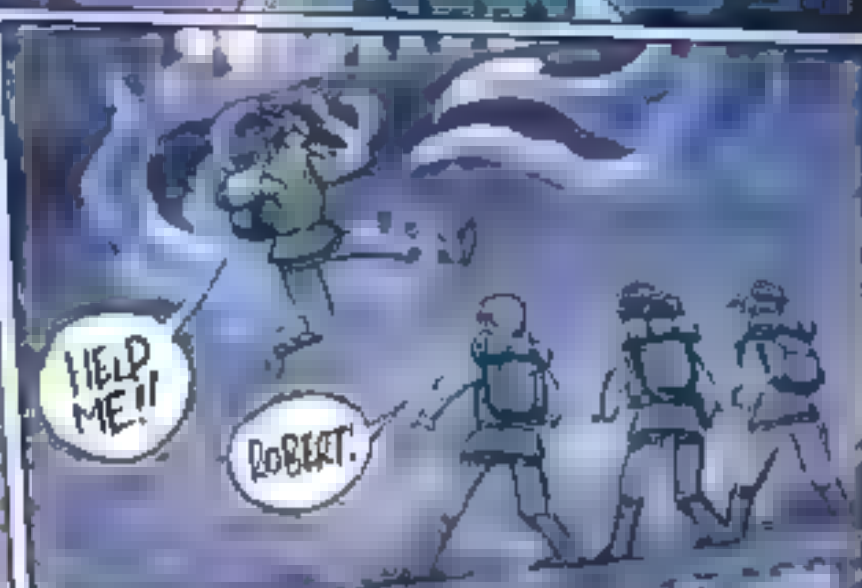
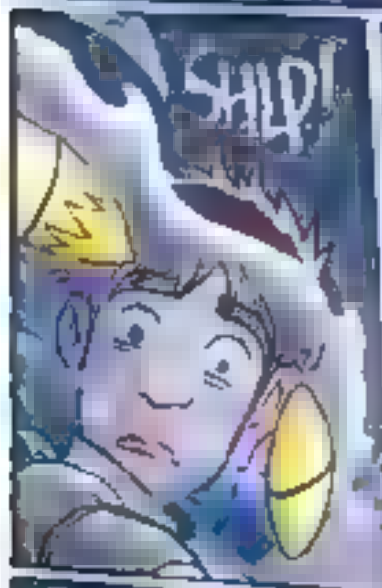
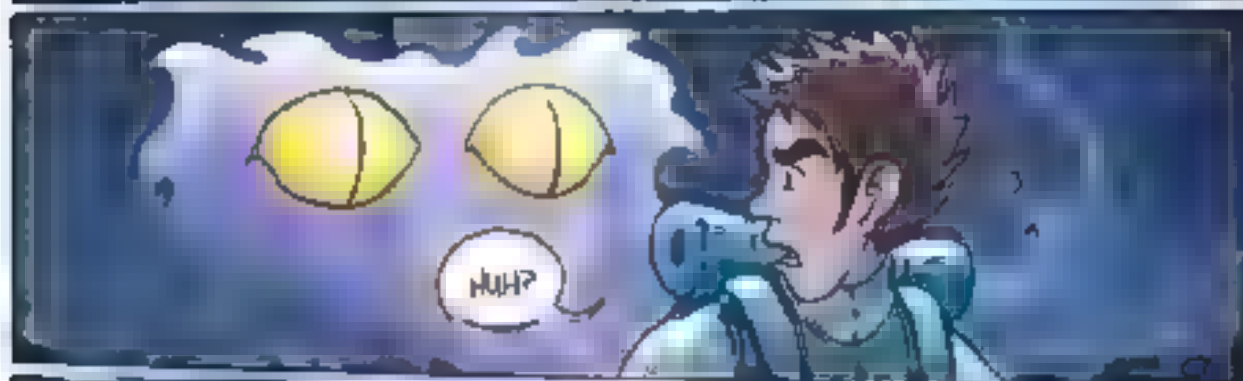




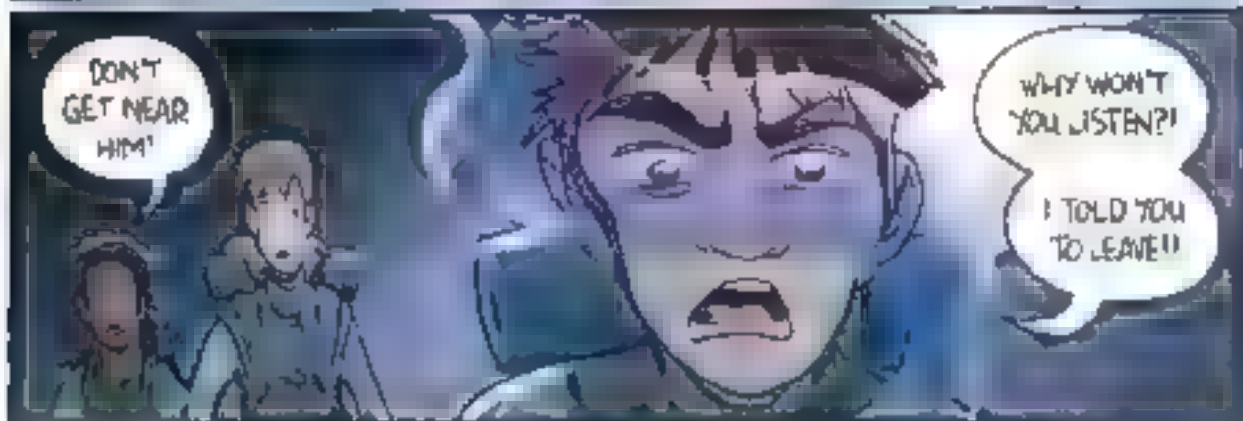


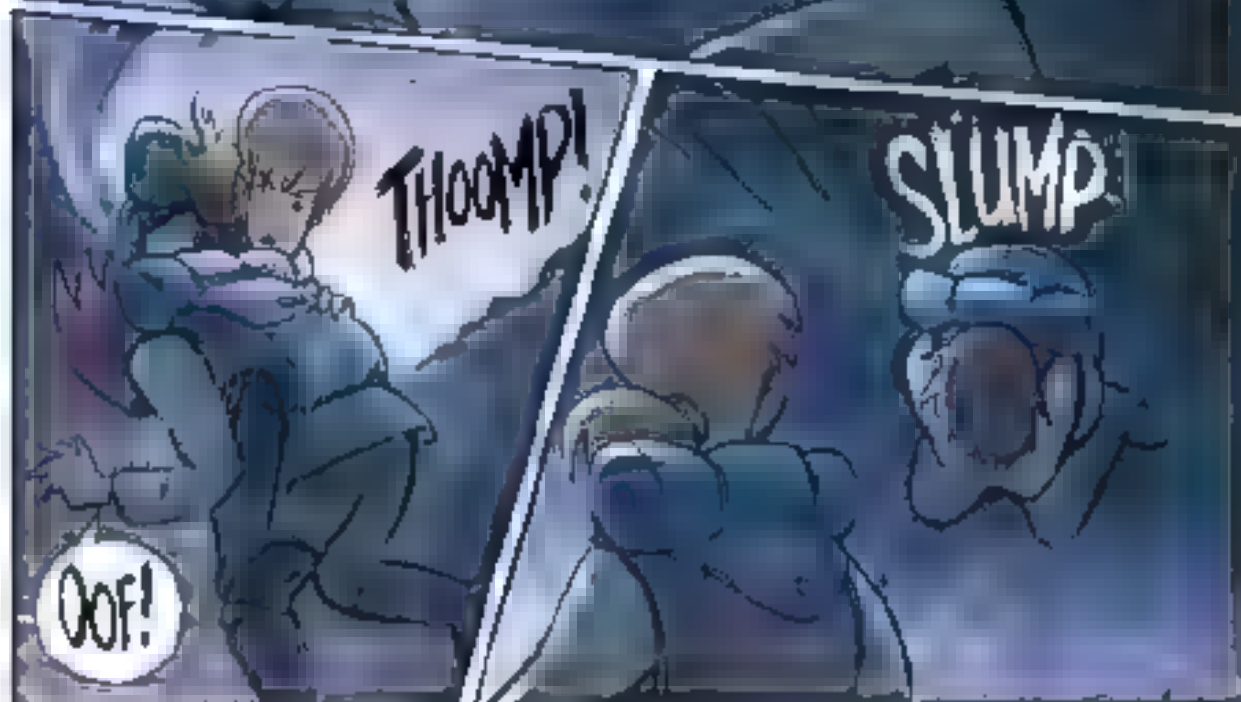
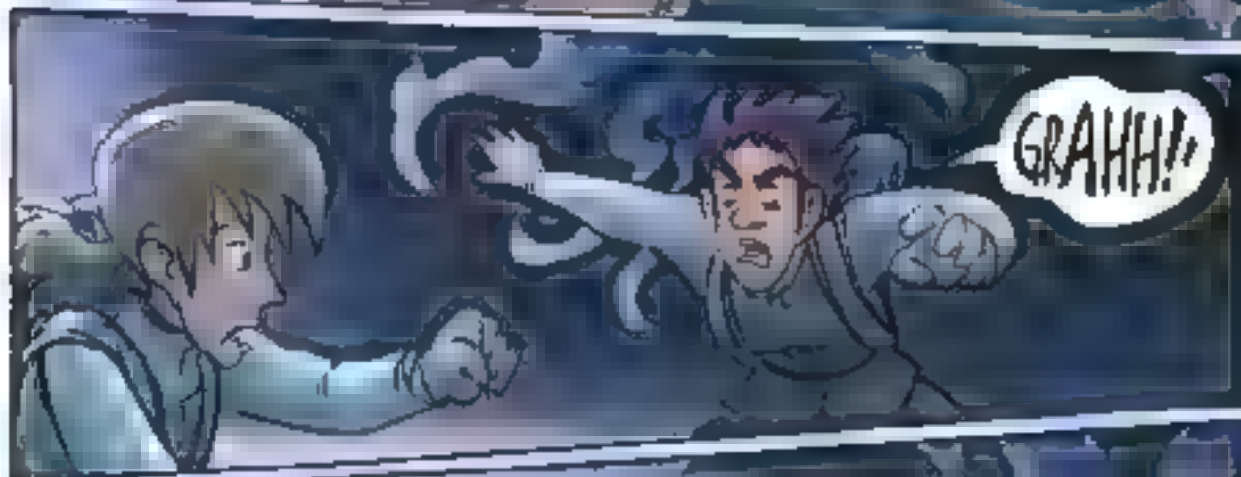


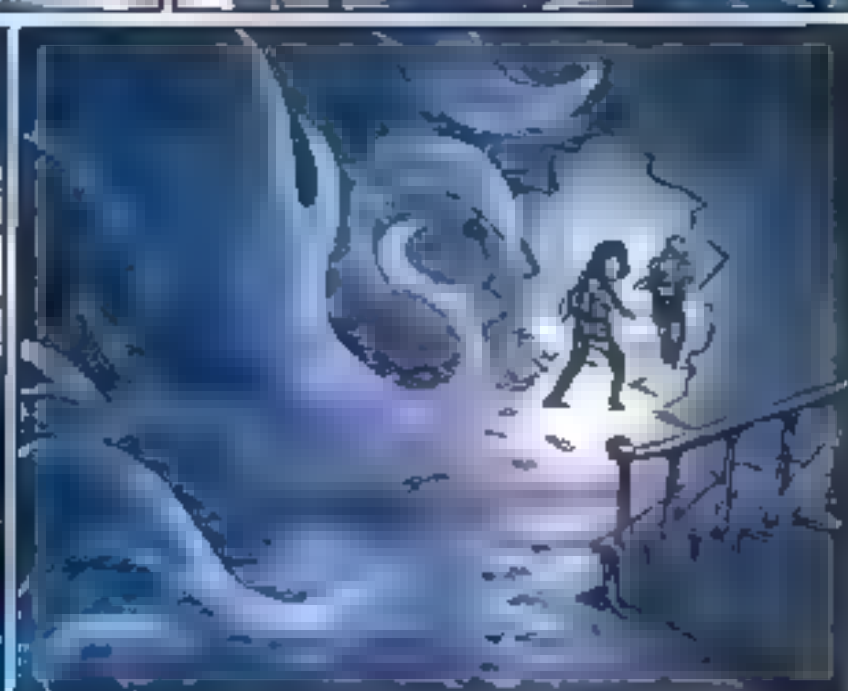
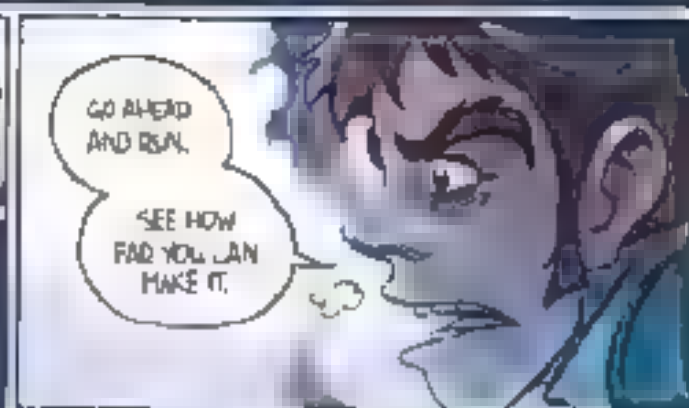


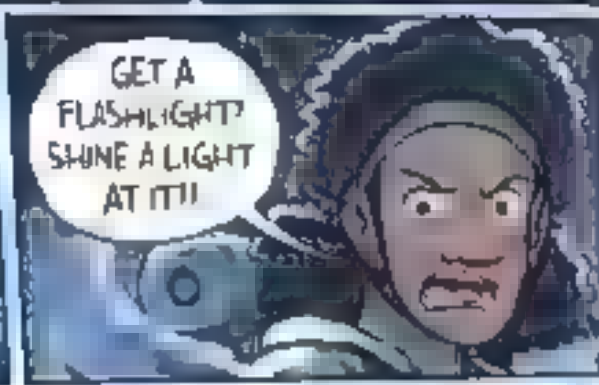
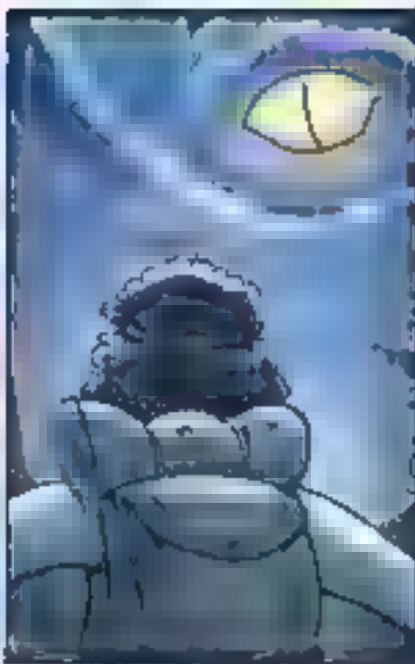




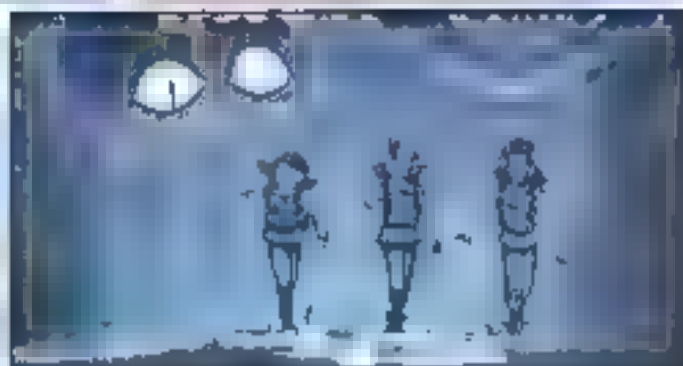
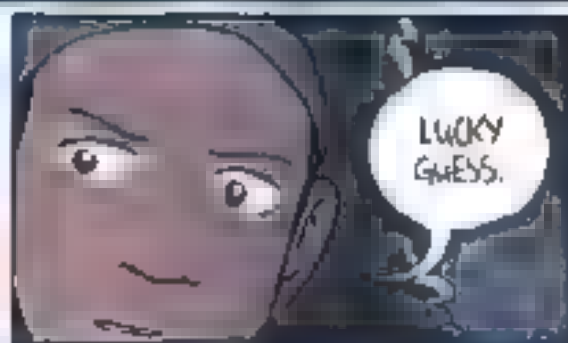
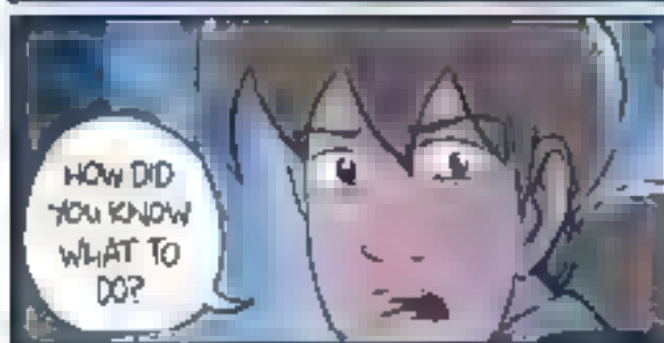
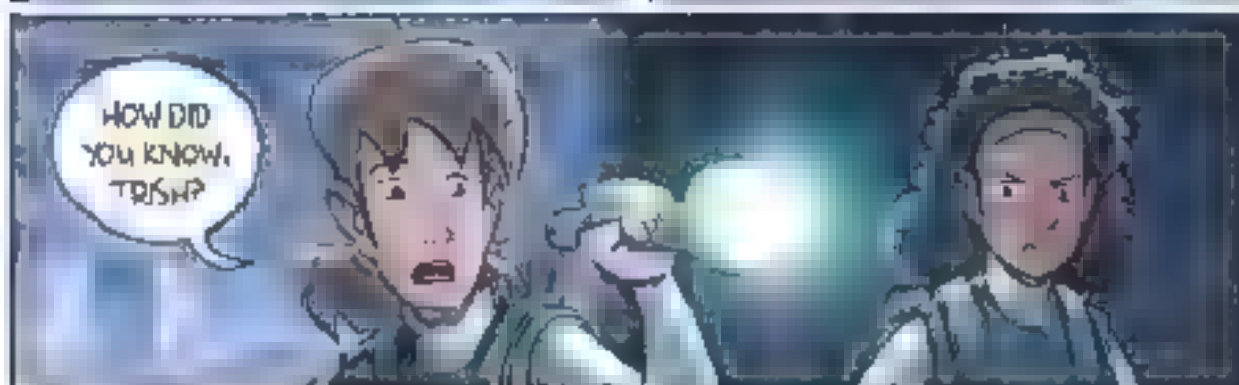


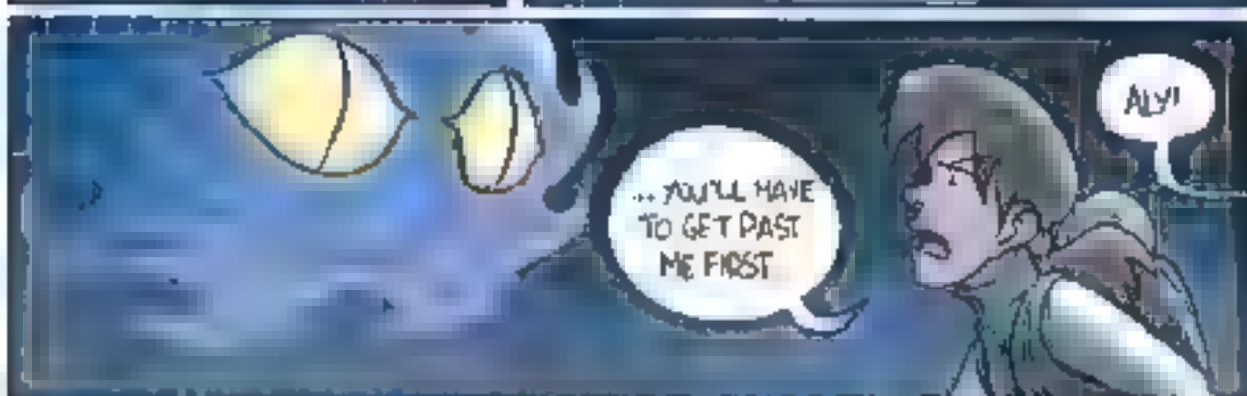
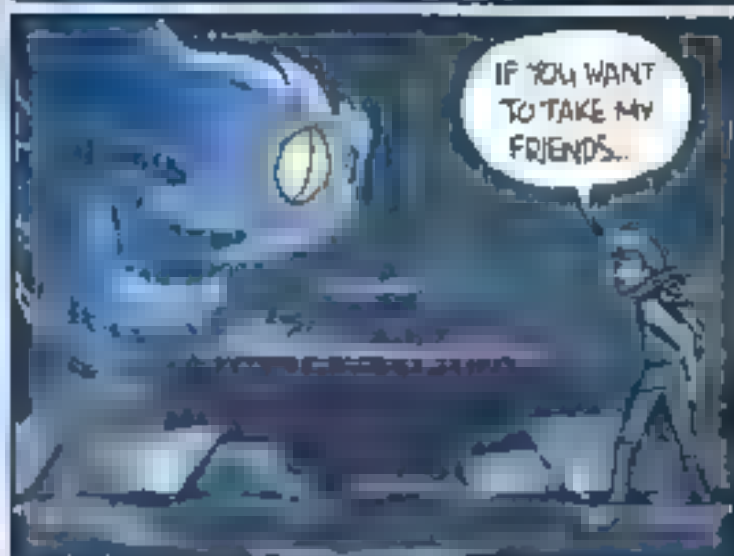




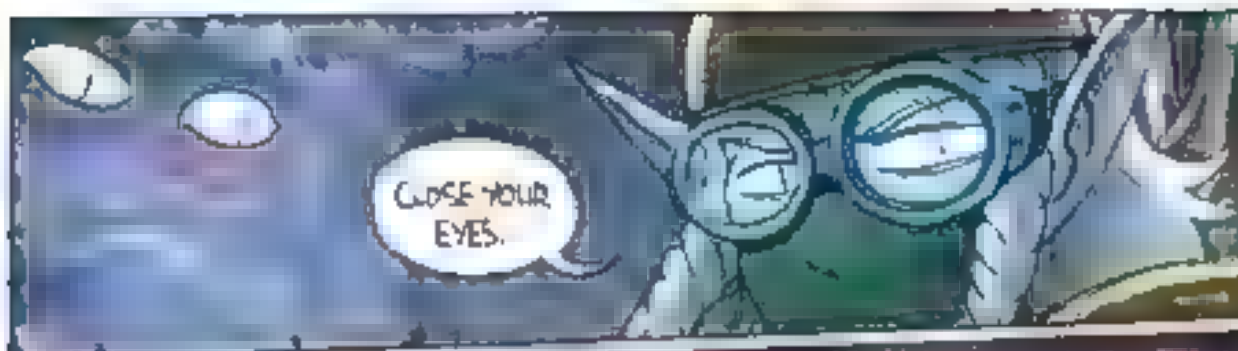




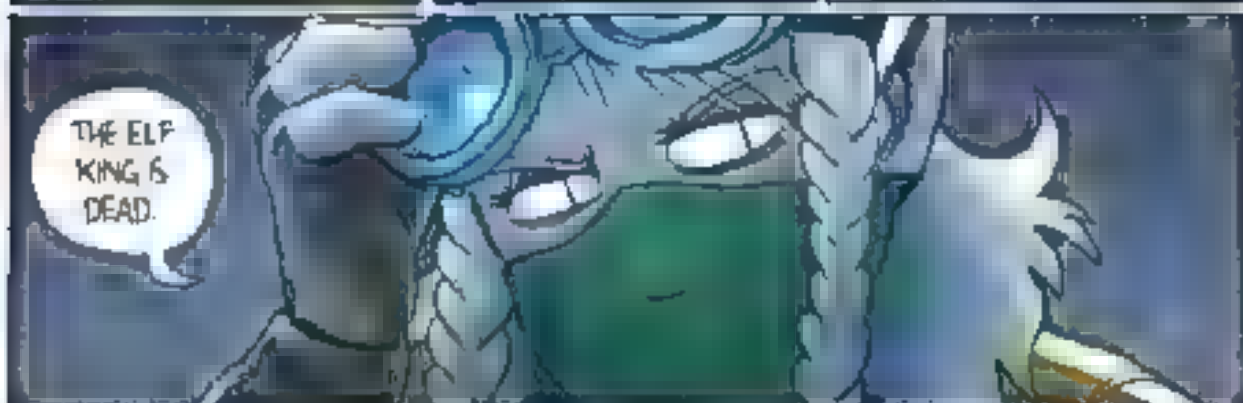
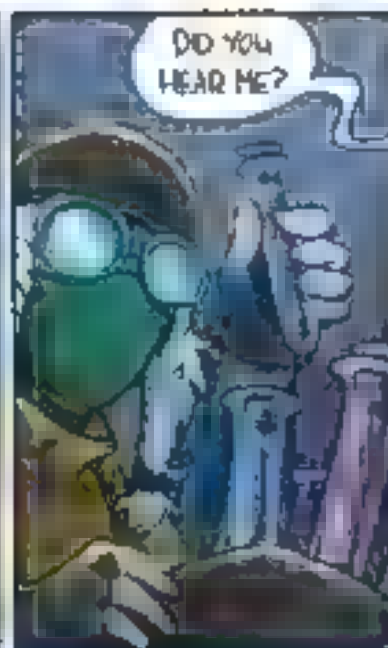
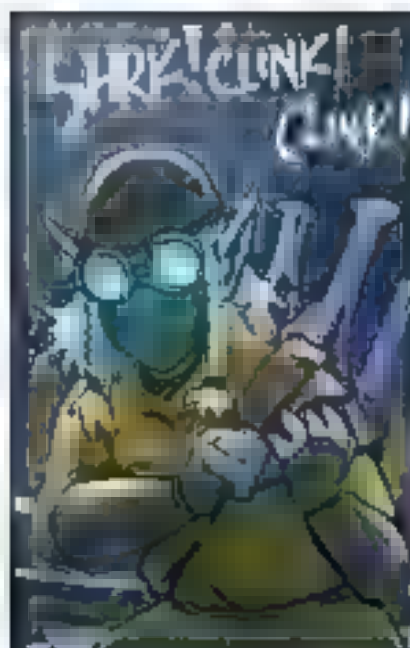


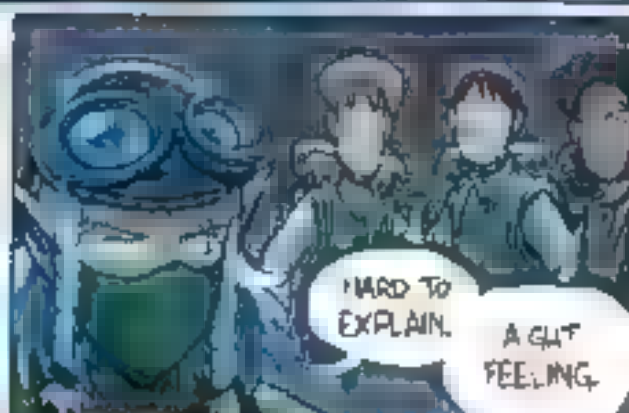
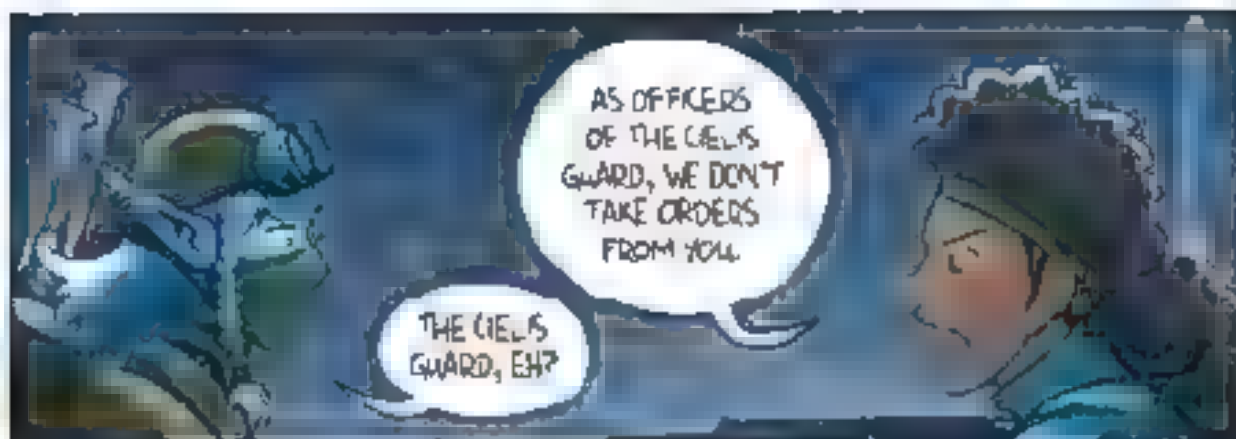


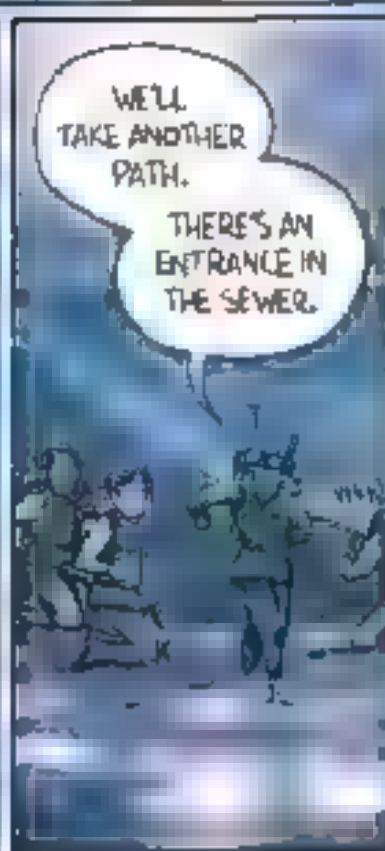
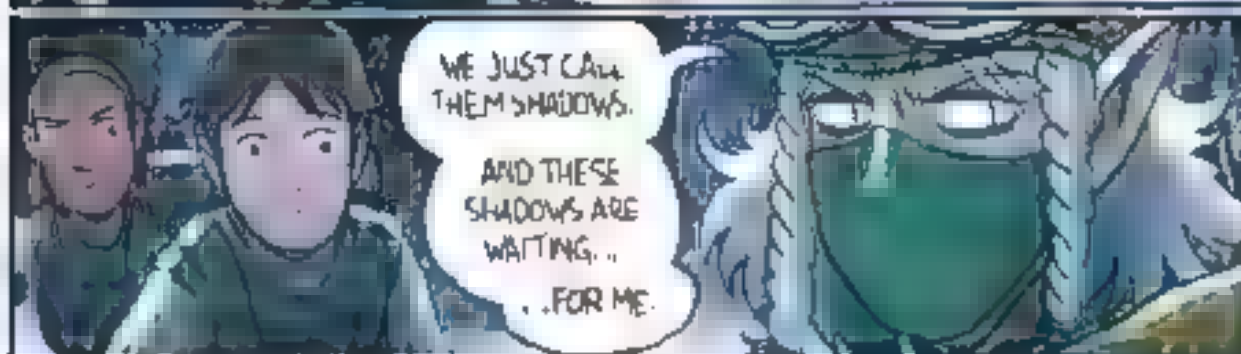


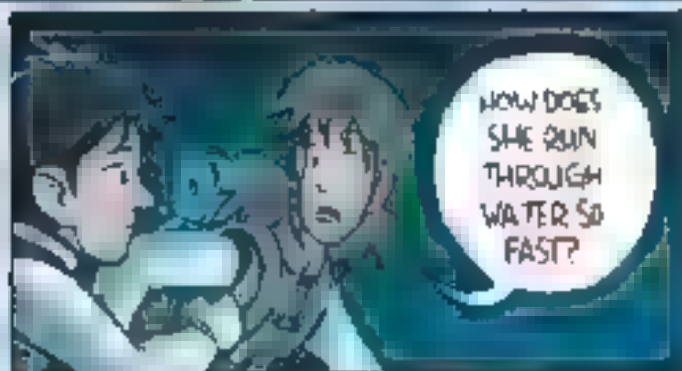
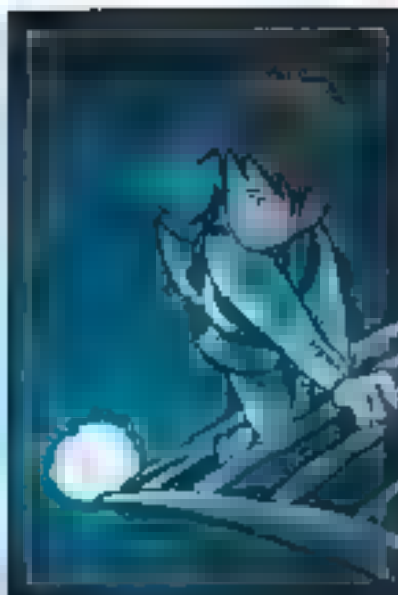




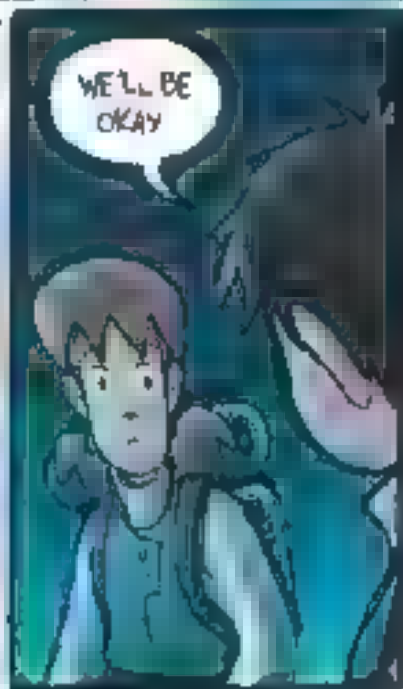
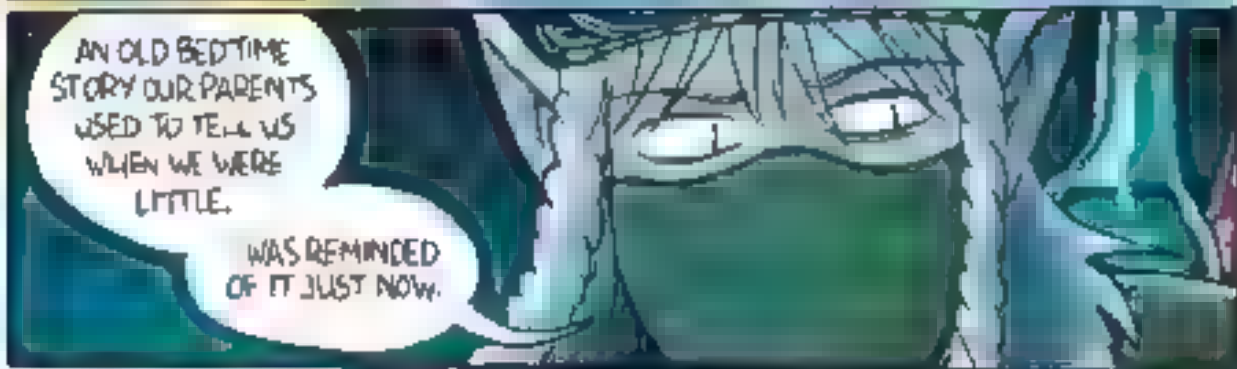






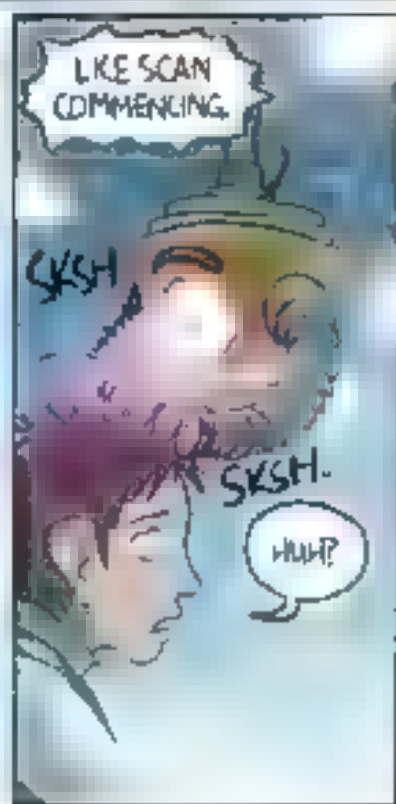
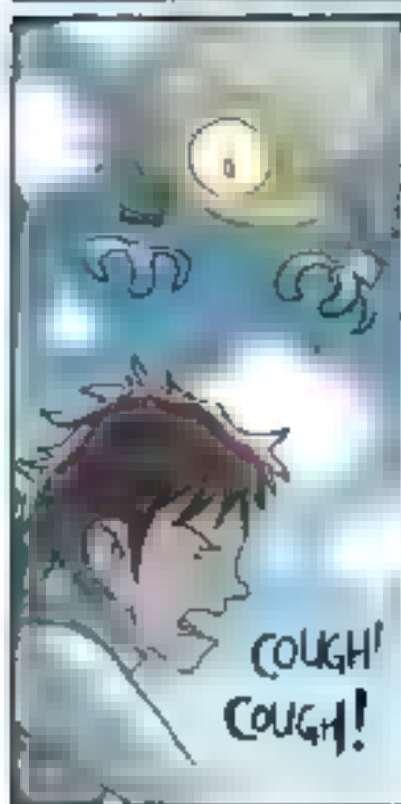
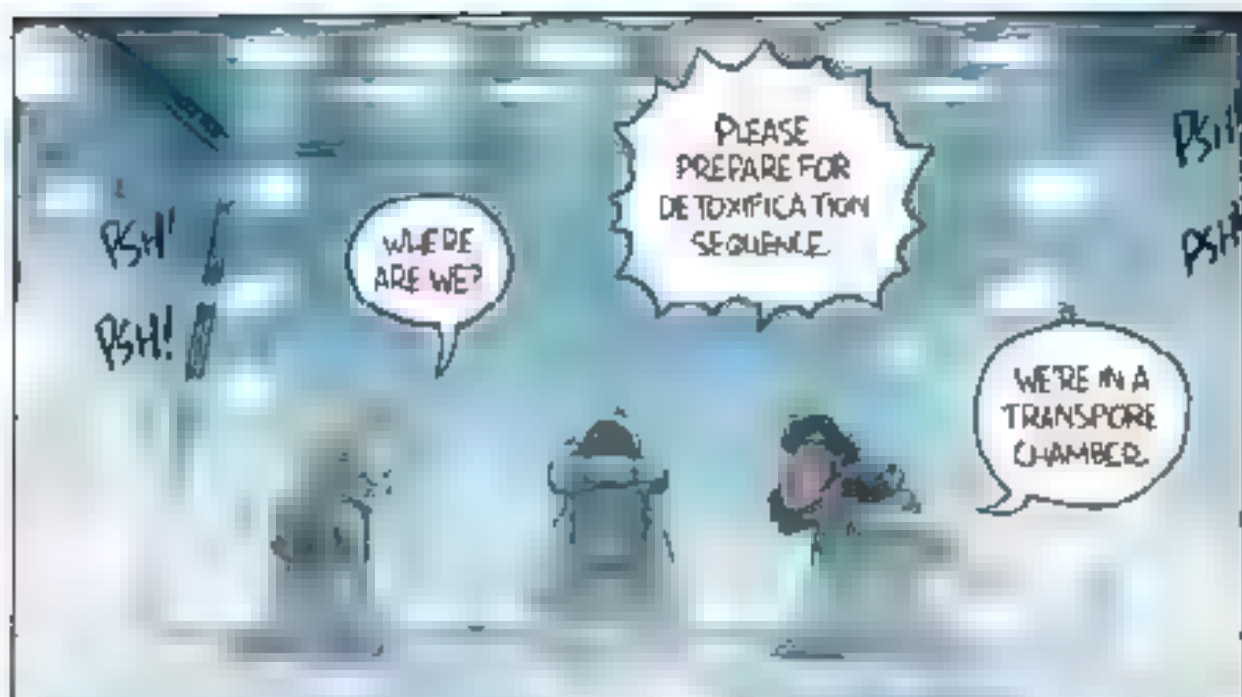




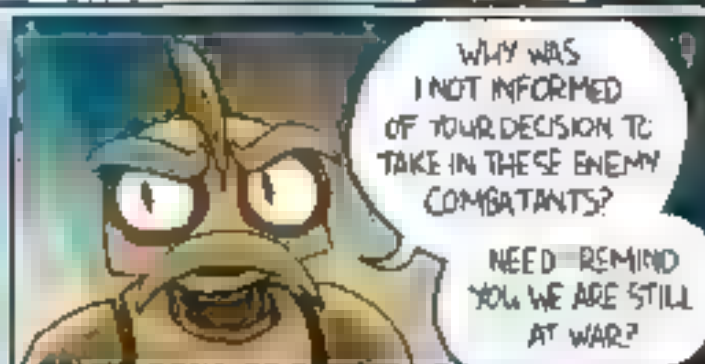
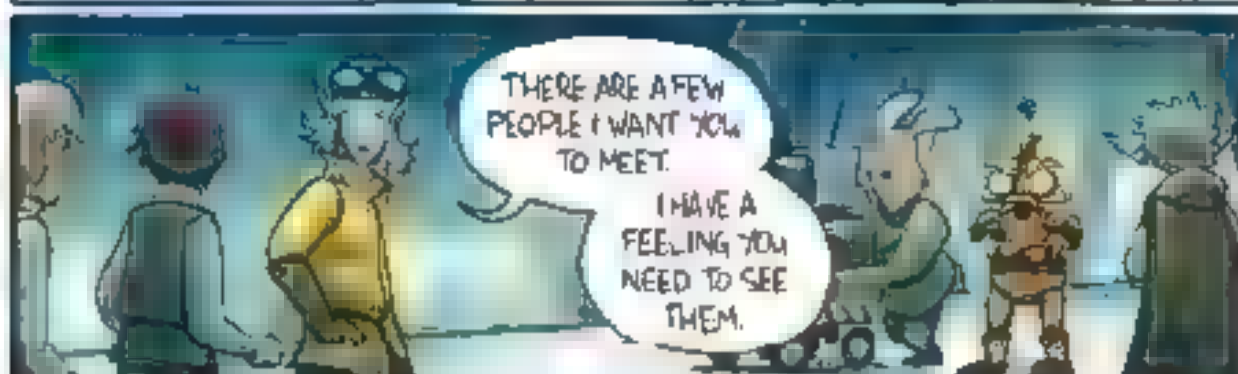


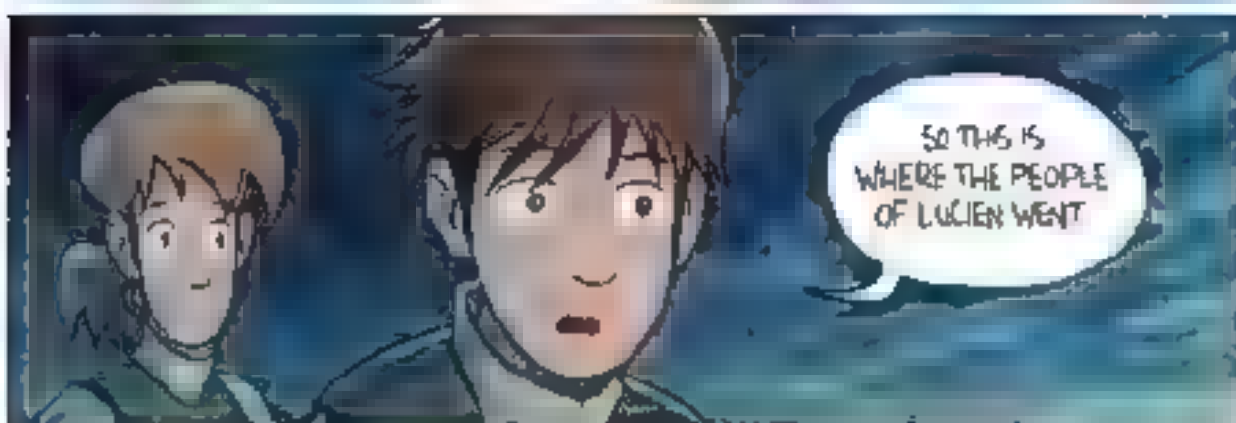
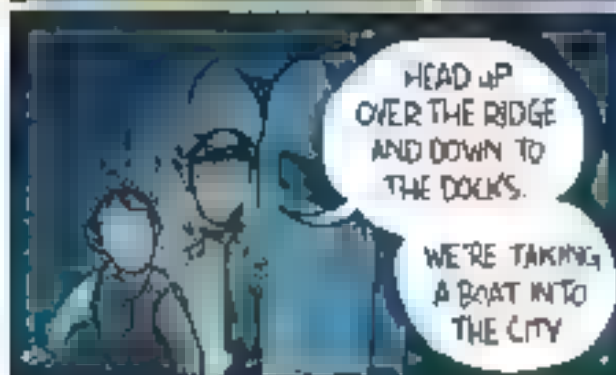


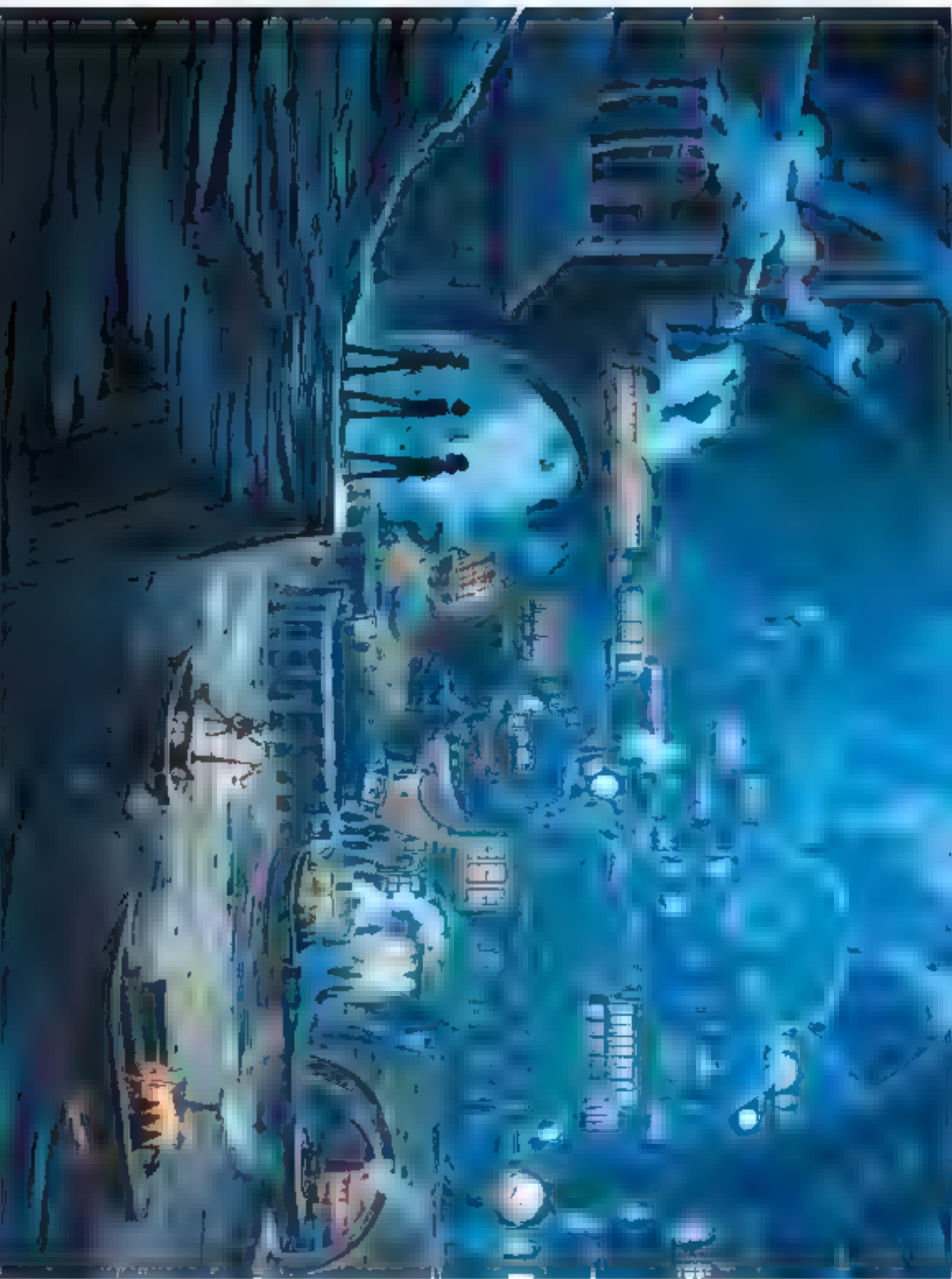




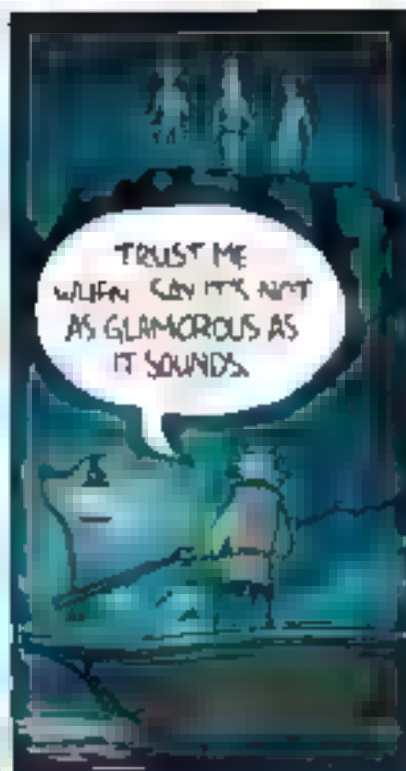




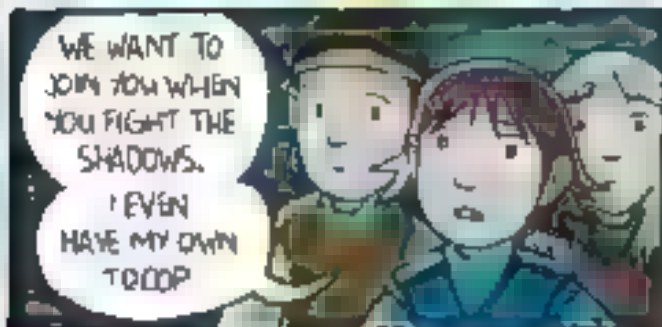
















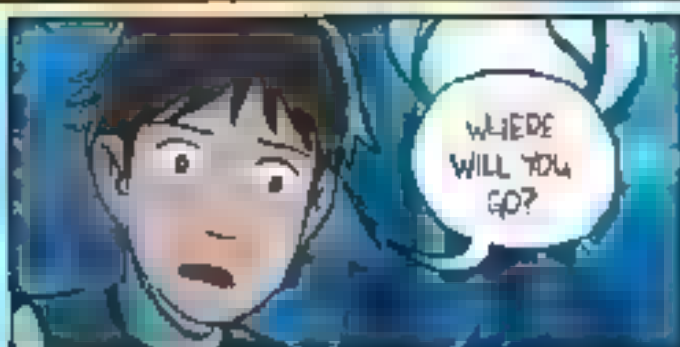
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE HAVE TO LEAVE THIS PLACE.

WE'LL RUN OUT OF RESOURCES IF THE SHADOWS DON'T GET US FIRST

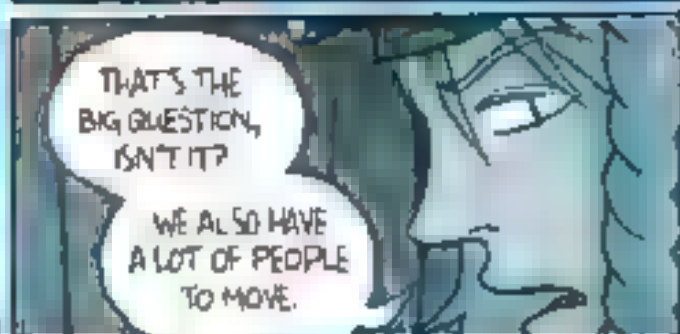


WITHOUT THE AID OF LUCIEN ABOVE, WE WILL NOT SURVIVE DOWN HERE

WE ARE STILL FORAGING THE RUINS FOR FOOD AND SUPPLIES, BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH



WHERE WILL YOU GO?



THAT'S THE BIG QUESTION, ISN'T IT?

WE ALSO HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE TO MOVE.



AND I'M NOT LEAVING UNLESS WE TAKE EVERYONE

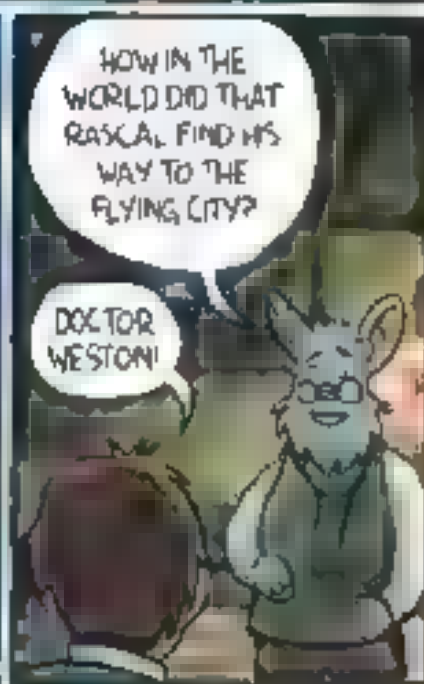
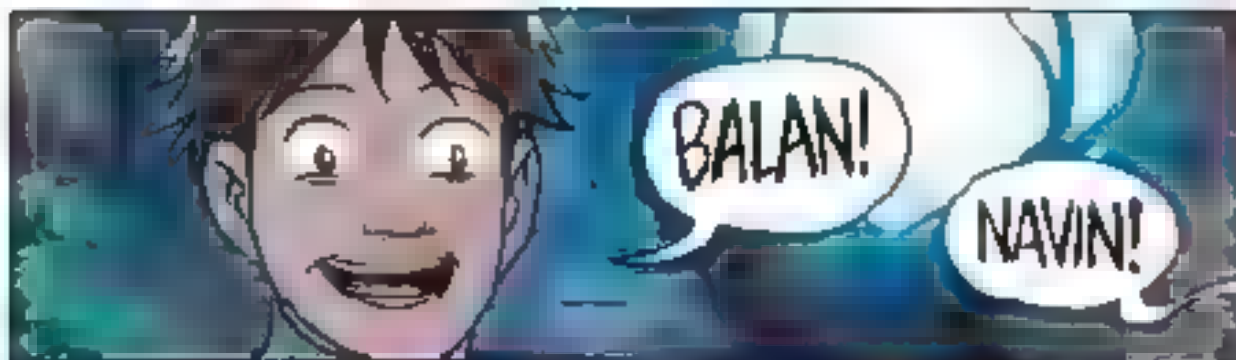
KNOCK KNOCK



BALAN, I HAVE A FEELING THESE ARE FRIENDS OF YOURS.

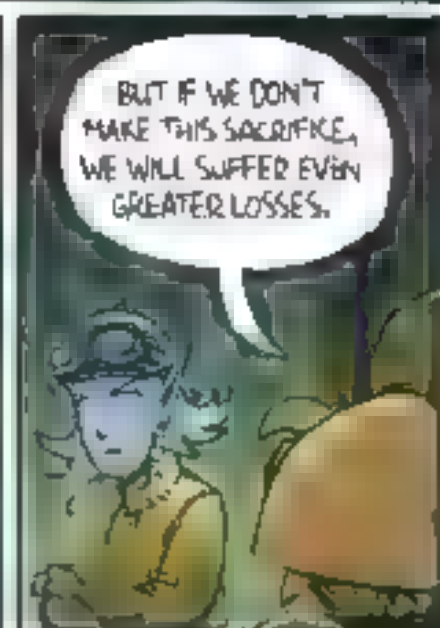
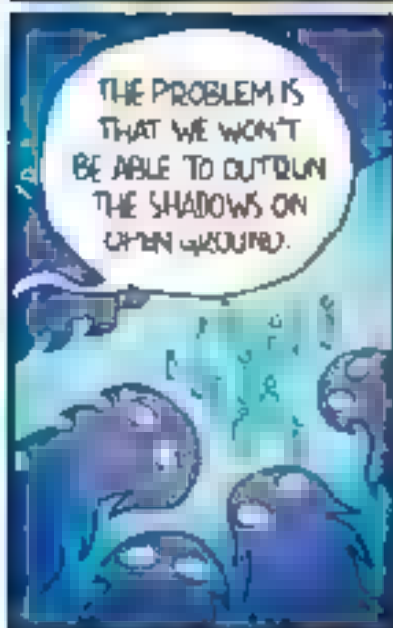
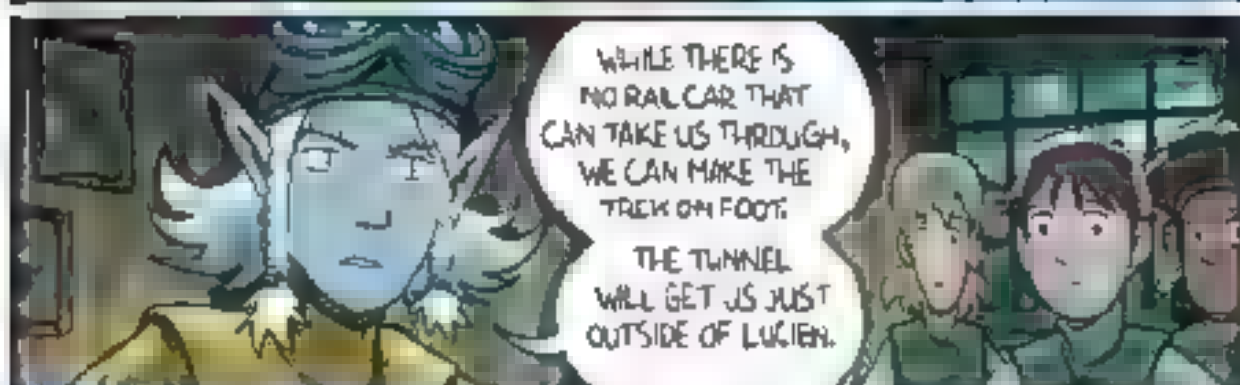
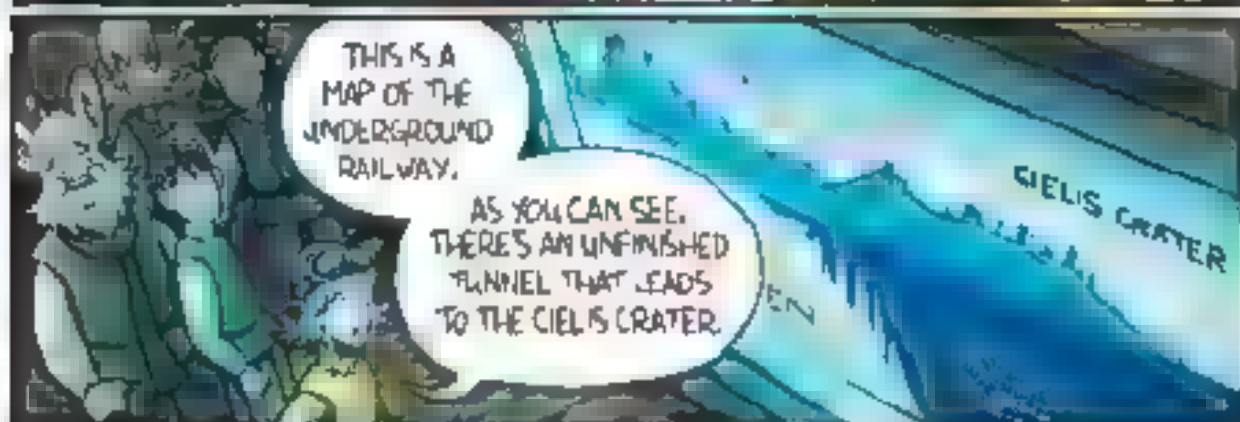
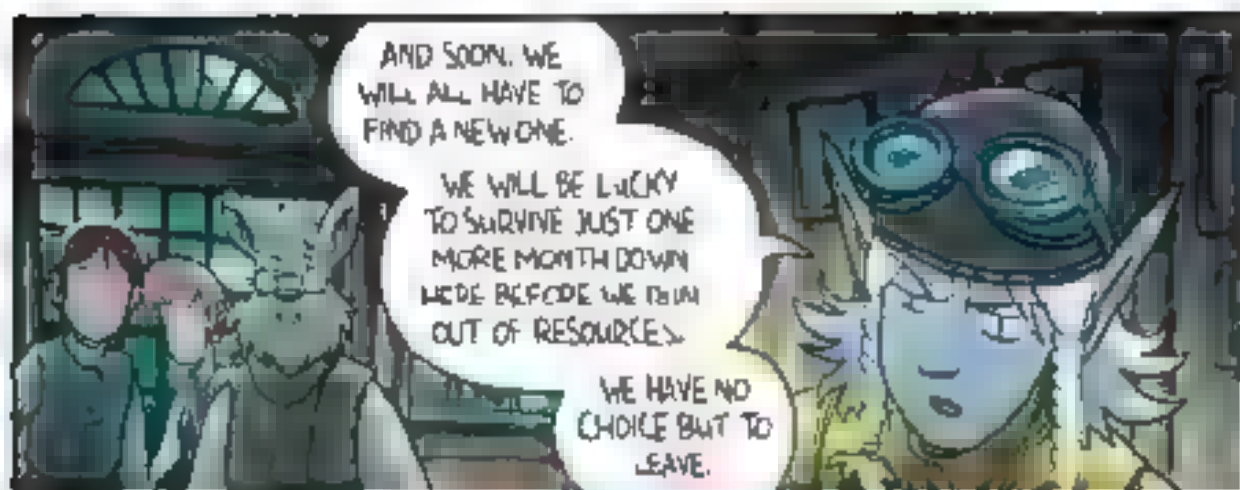
HA!  
HA!

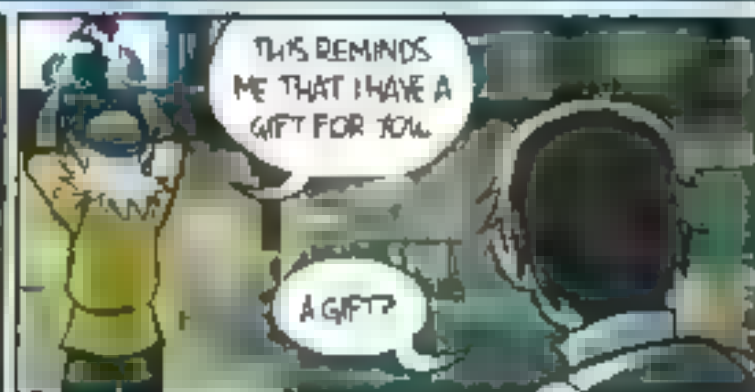
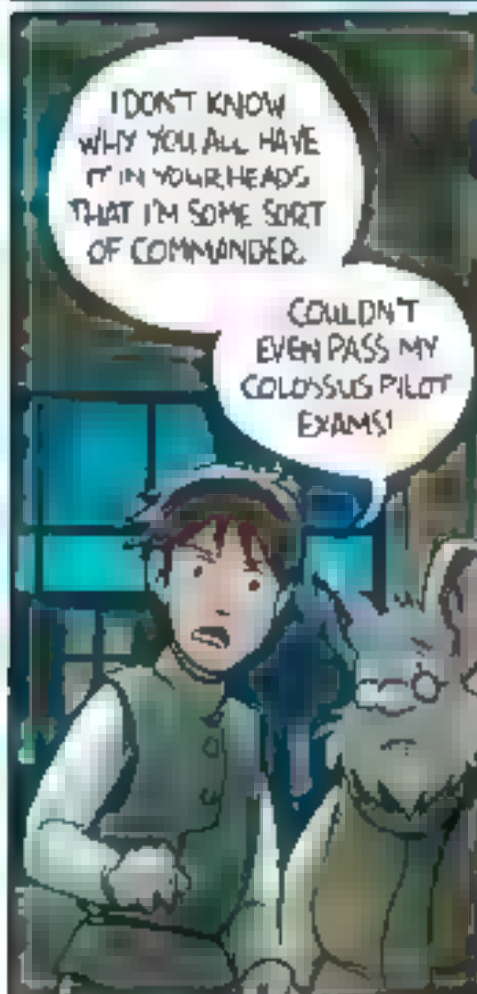








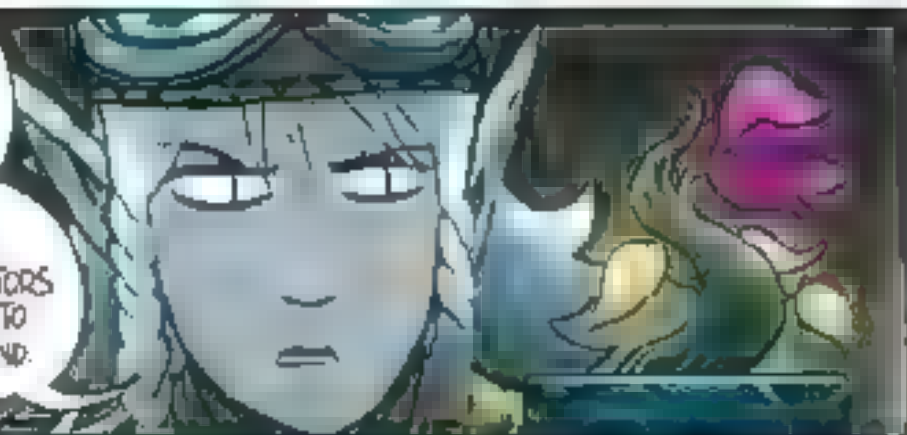






YOU SHOULD KNOW  
THAT I DON'T BELIEVE  
IN ANY OF THIS  
PROPHECY BUSINESS  
EITHER,

BUT MY CLOSE  
FRIENDS AND MENTORS  
DO, SO I CHOOSE TO  
KEEP AN OPEN MIND.



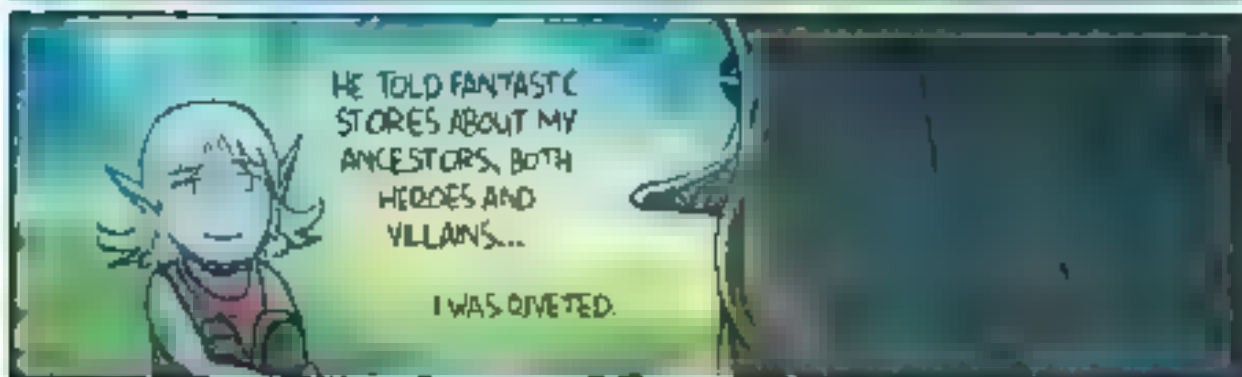
ONE OF THOSE FRIENDS  
WAS AN ELDER TREE NAMED  
FATHER CHARLES.

HE WAS A CLOSE FAMILY  
FRIEND FOR MANY  
GENERA TIONS.



HE TOLD FANTASTIC  
STORIES ABOUT MY  
ANCESTORS, BOTH  
HEROES AND  
VILLAINS...

I WAS OVETED.



I THOUGHT  
THOSE DAYS WOULD  
LAST FOREVER.

BUT THEY QUICKLY  
CAME TO AN END WHEN  
THE ELF KING DECLARED  
WAR.





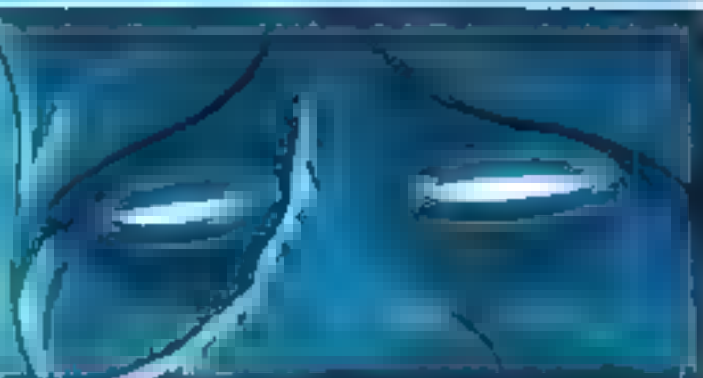
WHEN LUCEN FELL TO THE  
SHADOWS, FATHER CHARLES  
BECAME GRAVELY ILL.

IN THOSE LAST DAYS,  
HE SPOKE ONLY ABOUT  
THE FUTURE.



HE SAID THE ARRIVAL OF  
A YOUNG LEADER WOULD  
SIGNAL THE START OF A  
REVOLUTION THAT COULD  
SAVE ALLEDIA.

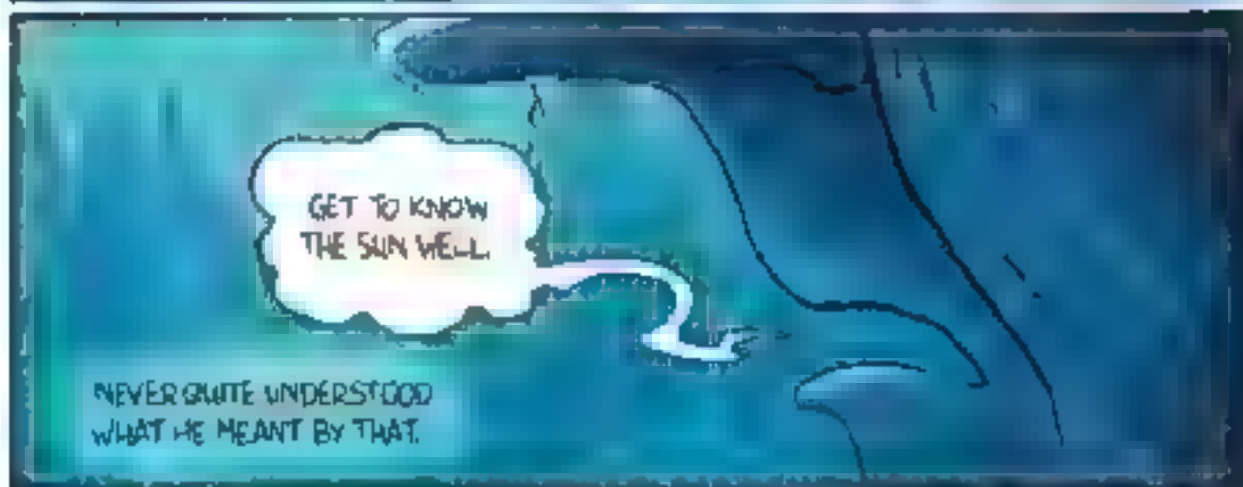
HIS LAST WORDS WERE CRYPTIC,  
BUT I'LL NEVER FORGET THEM.

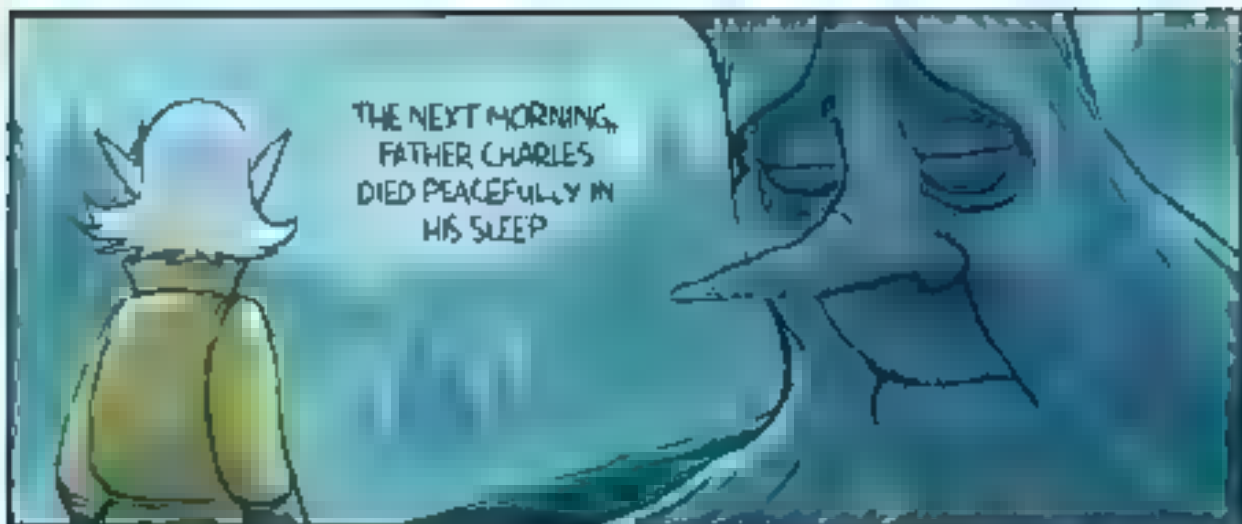


THE SKY WILL  
BEGIN TO FALL,  
AND A SUN WILL  
RISE AGAIN.

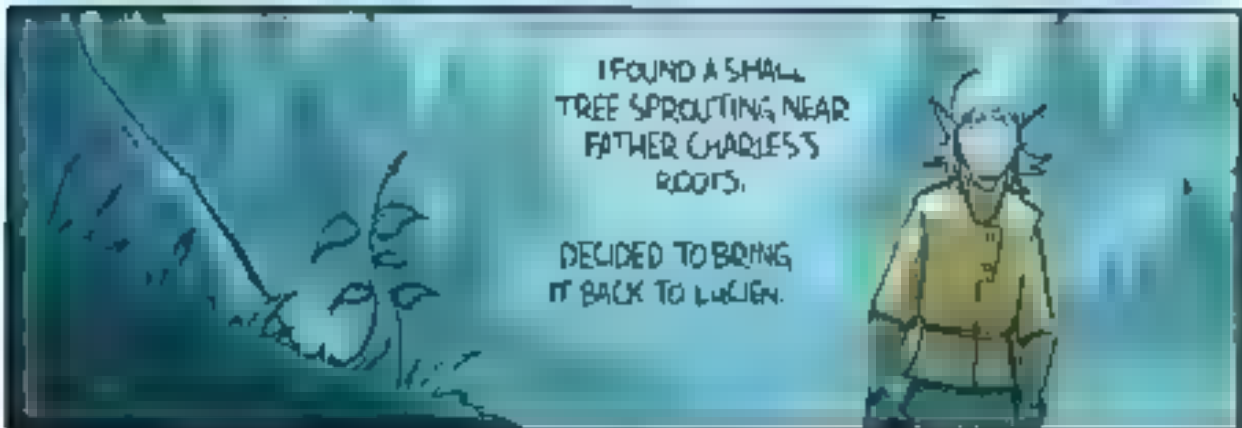
GET TO KNOW  
THE SUN WELL.

NEVER QUITE UNDERSTOOD  
WHAT HE MEANT BY THAT.





THE NEXT MORNING,  
FATHER CHARLES  
DIED PEACEFULLY IN  
HIS SLEEP



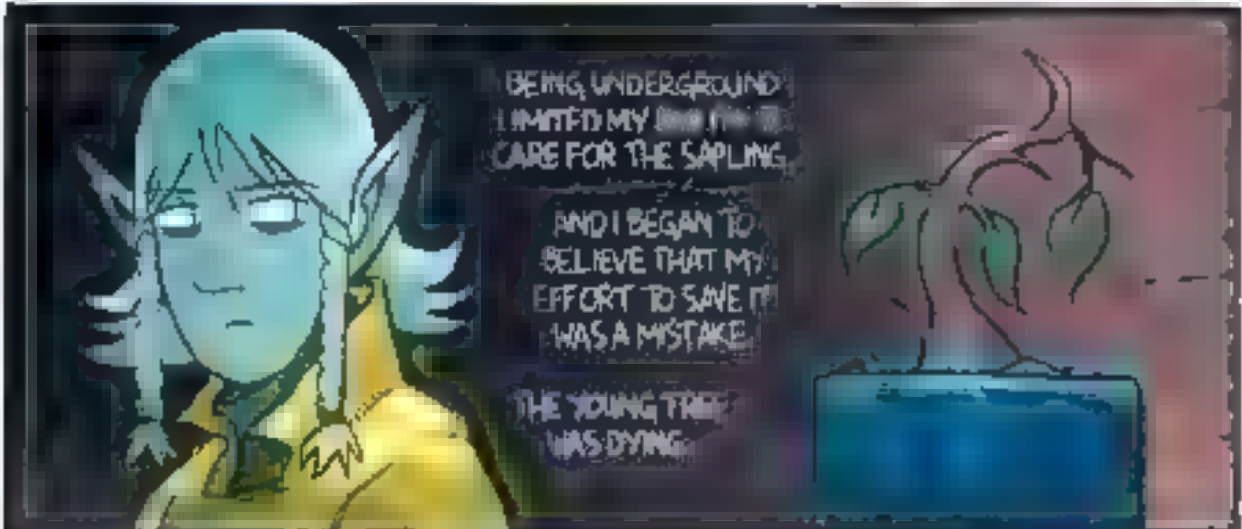
I FOUND A SMALL  
TREE SPROUTING NEAR  
FATHER CHARLES'S  
ROOTS.

DECIDED TO BRING  
IT BACK TO LUCIEN.



I WASN'T CERTAIN THAT  
IT WAS RELATED TO FATHER  
CHARLES OR THAT IT WOULD  
GROW INTO AN ELDER TREE.

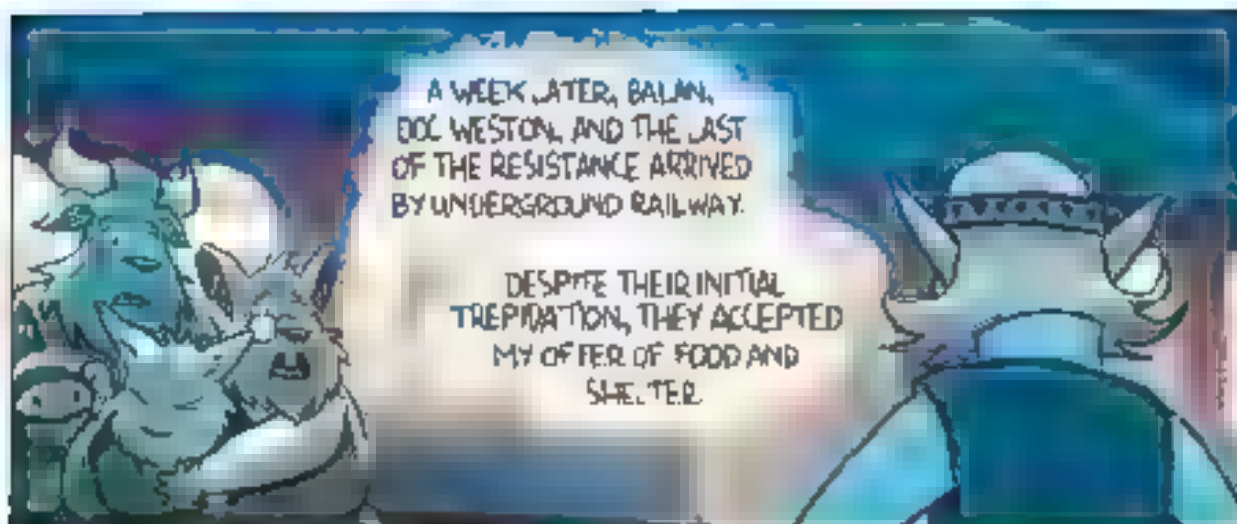
BUT I FELT THE NEED  
TO SEE THE SAPLING  
SURVIVE.



BEING UNDERGROUND  
LIMITED MY ~~ABILITY~~ TO  
CARE FOR THE SAPLING.

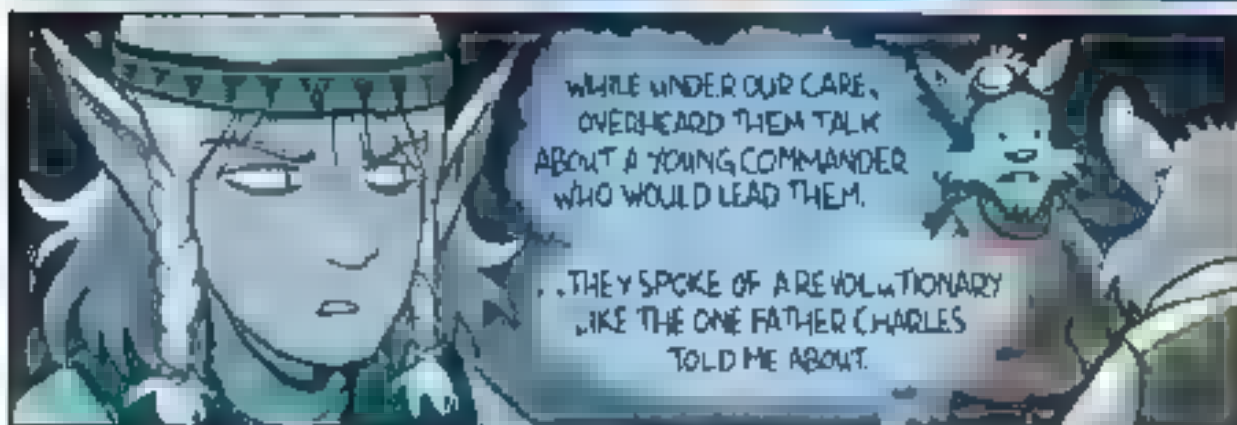
AND I BEGAN TO  
BELIEVE THAT MY  
EFFORT TO SAVE IT  
WAS A MISTAKE.

THE YOUNG TREE  
WAS DYING.



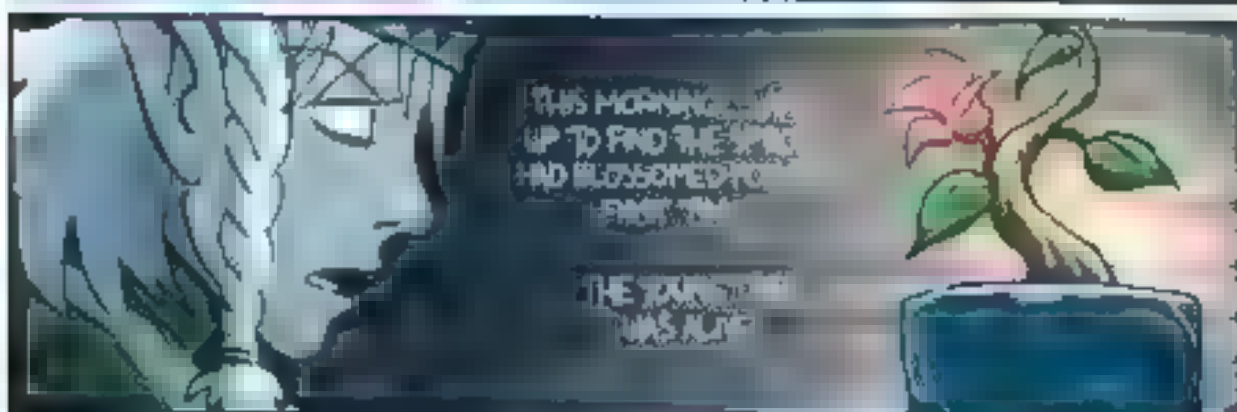
A WEEK LATER, BALAN,  
DOC WESTON, AND THE LAST  
OF THE RESISTANCE ARRIVED  
BY UNDERGROUND RAILWAY.

DESPITE THEIR INITIAL  
TREPIDATION, THEY ACCEPTED  
MY OFFER OF FOOD AND  
SHELTER.



WHILE UNDER OUR CARE,  
OVERHEARD THEM TALK  
ABOUT A YOUNG COMMANDER  
WHO WOULD LEAD THEM.

THEY SPOKE OF A REVOLUTIONARY  
LIKE THE ONE FATHER CHARLES  
TOLD ME ABOUT.



THIS MORNING  
UP TO FIND THE  
HAD BLOSSOMED  
ERECTLY

THE FLOWER  
WAS ALIVE



BUT WHEN ARRIVED,  
I SAW THAT FATHER CHARLES  
HAD BEEN CHOPPED DOWN  
AND TAKEN AWAY

MOST LIKELY THE  
WORK OF SCAVENGERS  
SEEKING THE HEALING  
POWERS OF THE ELDER  
TREES.



COULDN'T LEAVE  
THE SAPLING THERE

IT NEEDED A  
PROPER HOME.

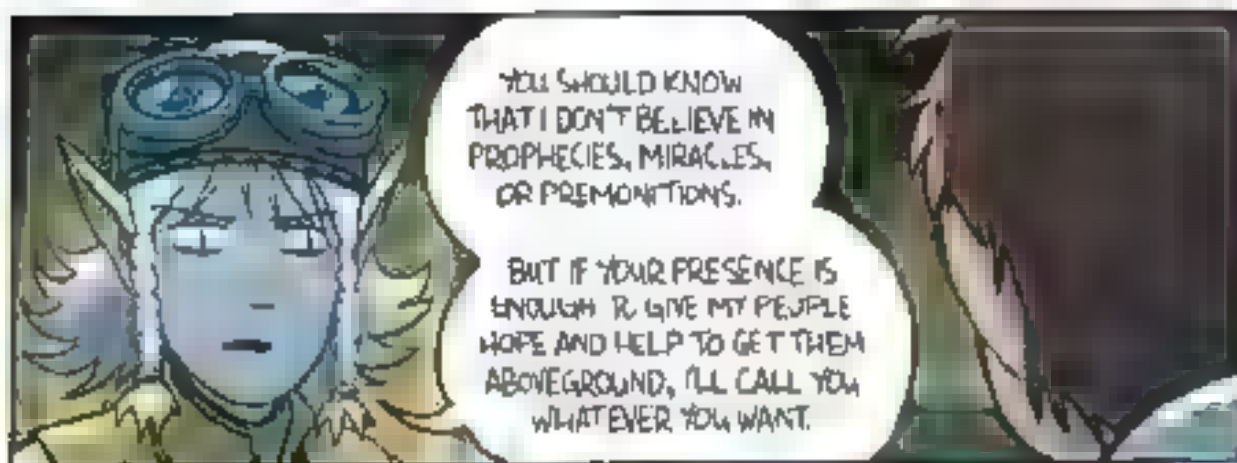
SO I DECIDED TO  
TAKE IT BACK



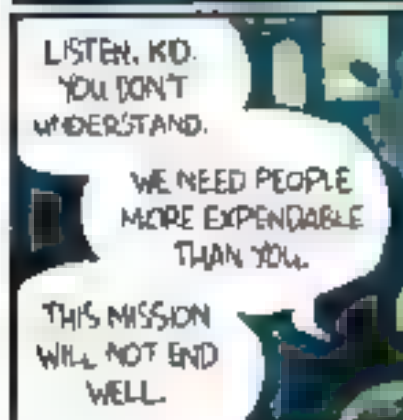
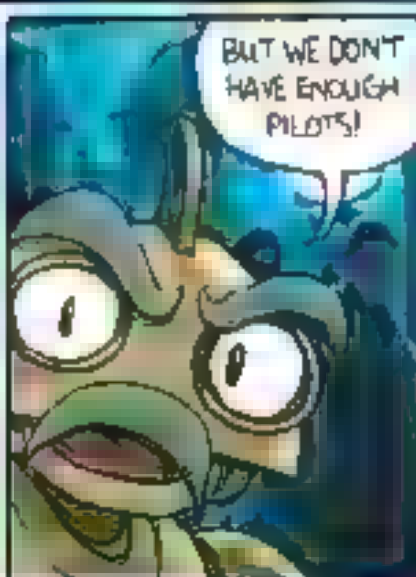
AND THAT'S  
HOW I FOUND  
YOU



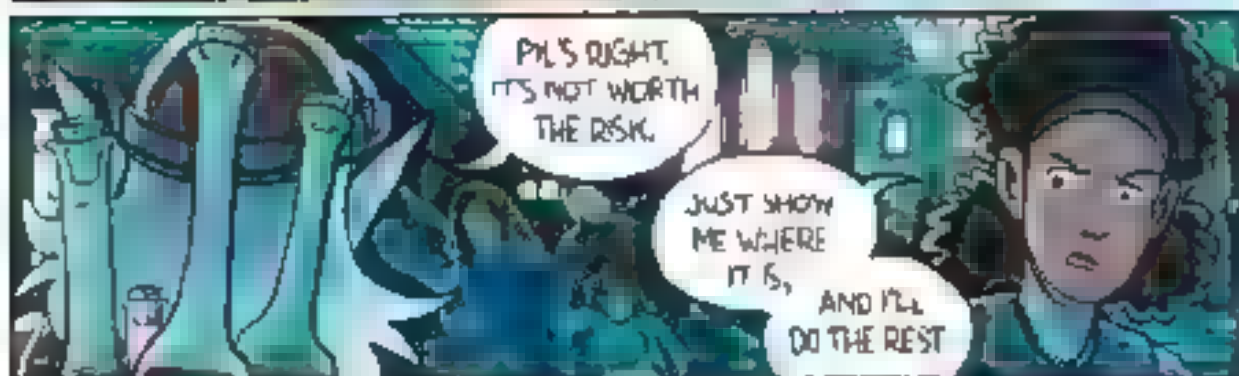
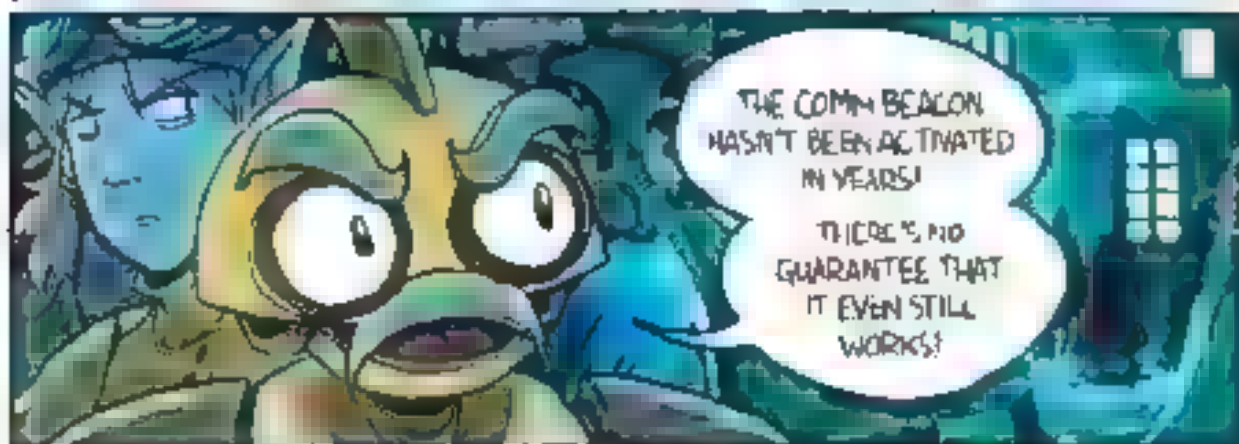




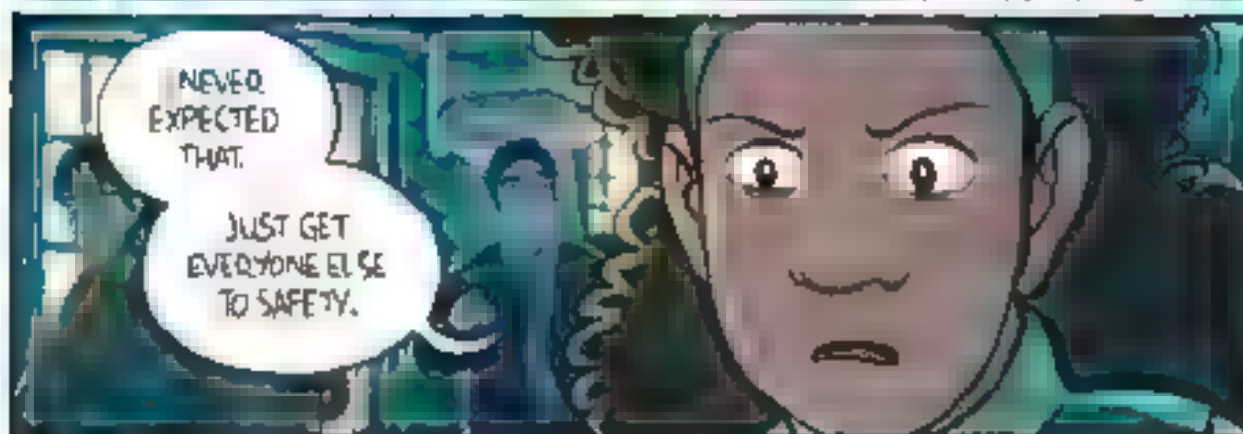
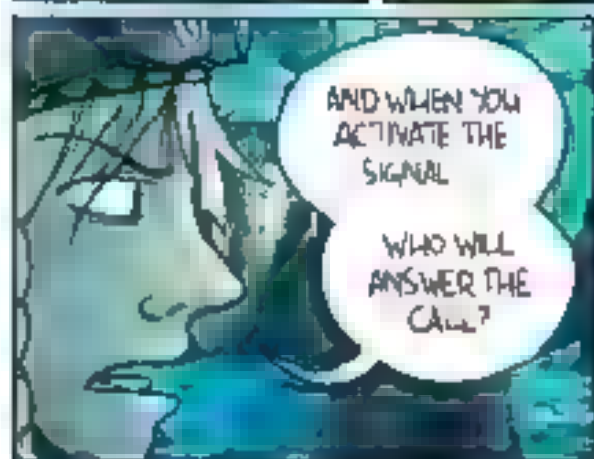














SEE YOU  
ON THE  
SURFACE!



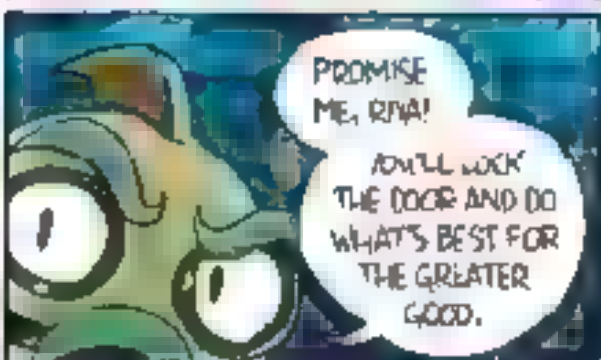
DID YOU REALLY  
MEAN THAT?  
YOU WOULD  
CLOSE THE  
DOOR!

I'LL DO  
WHAT HAVE  
TO DO.



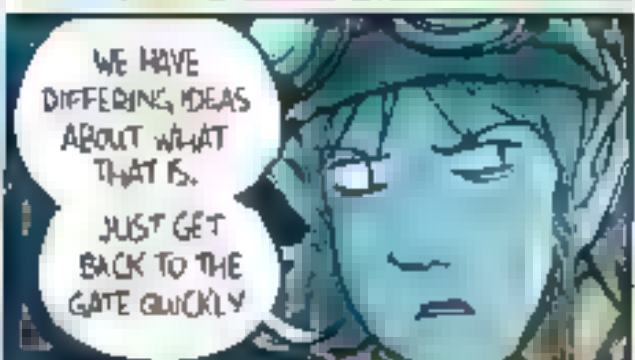
THEN PROMISE  
YOU WILL DO THE  
SAME THING  
WITH US.

JUST  
GET BACK  
HERE



PROMISE  
ME, RMA!

YOU'LL LOCK  
THE DOOR AND DO  
WHAT'S BEST FOR  
THE GREATER  
GOOD.

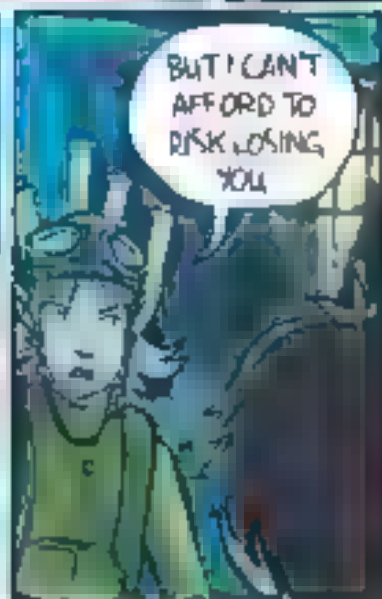


WE HAVE  
DIFFERING IDEAS  
ABOUT WHAT  
THAT IS.

JUST GET  
BACK TO THE  
GATE QUICKLY



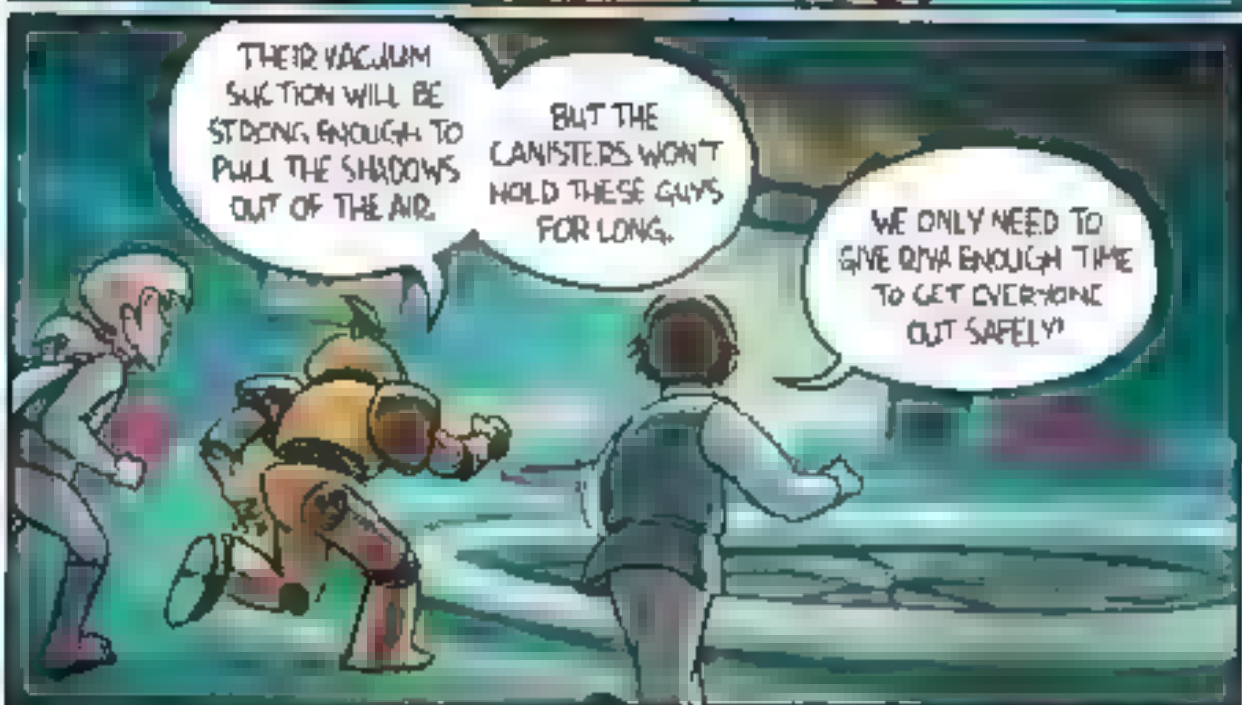
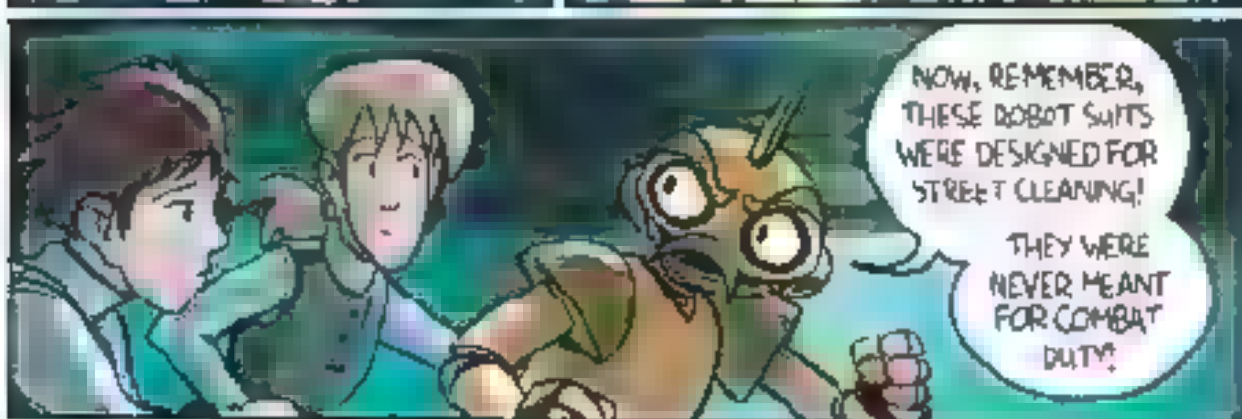
PIL'S  
RIGHT. IF WE DON'T  
RETURN, GO  
WITHOUT US.



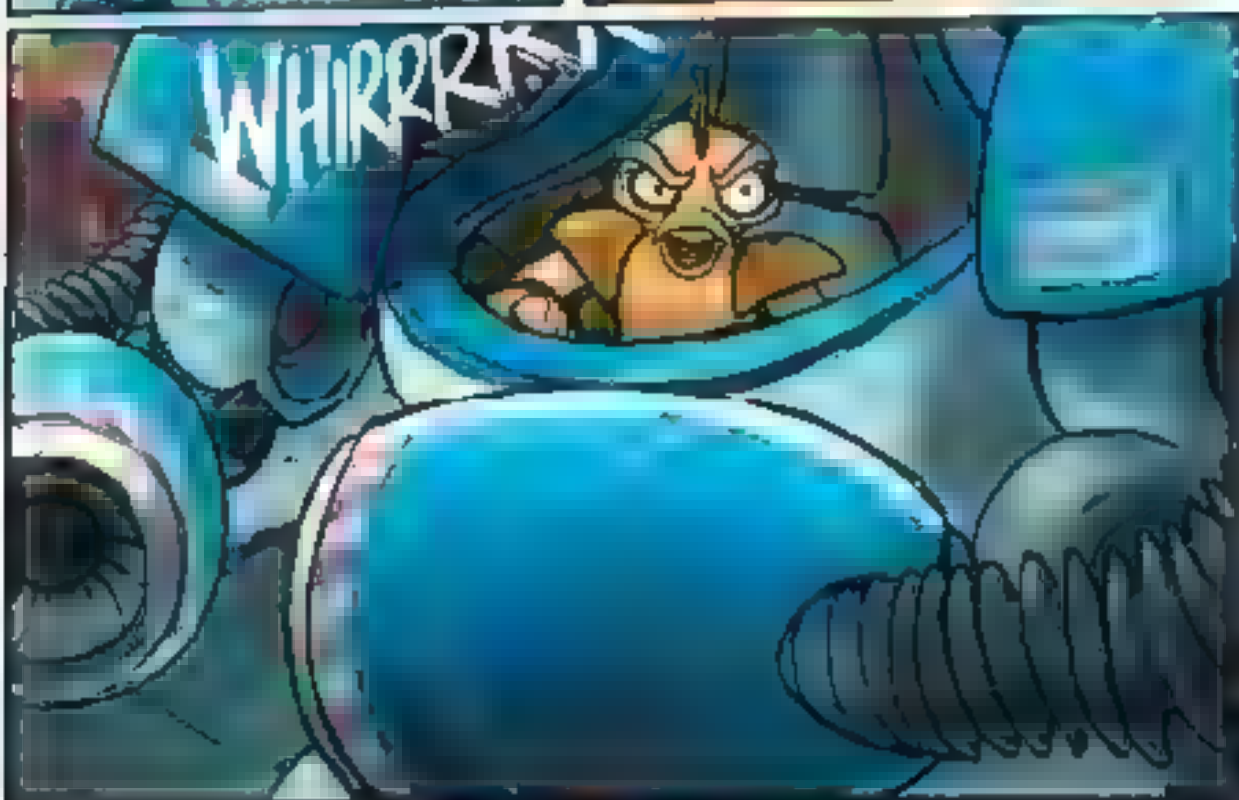
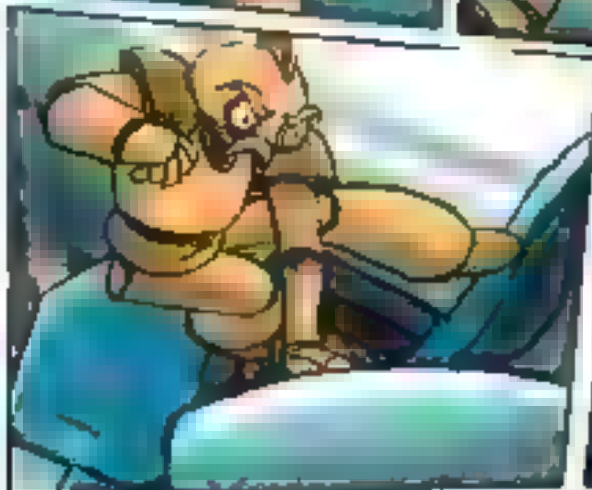
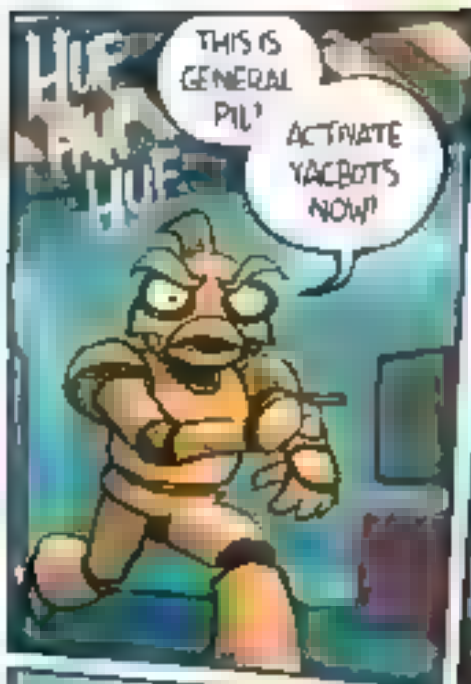
BUT I CAN'T  
AFFORD TO  
RISK LOSING  
YOU



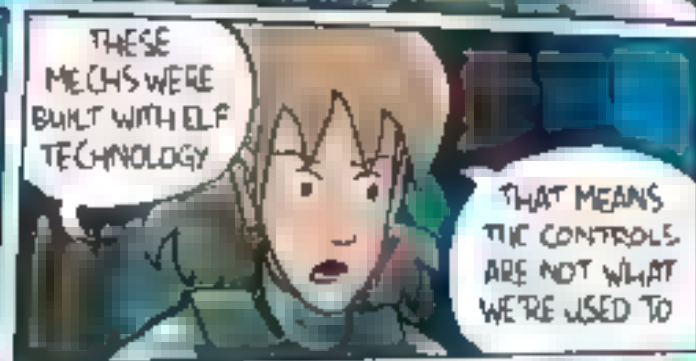
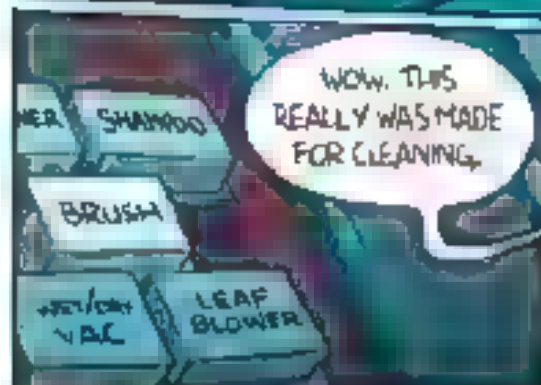
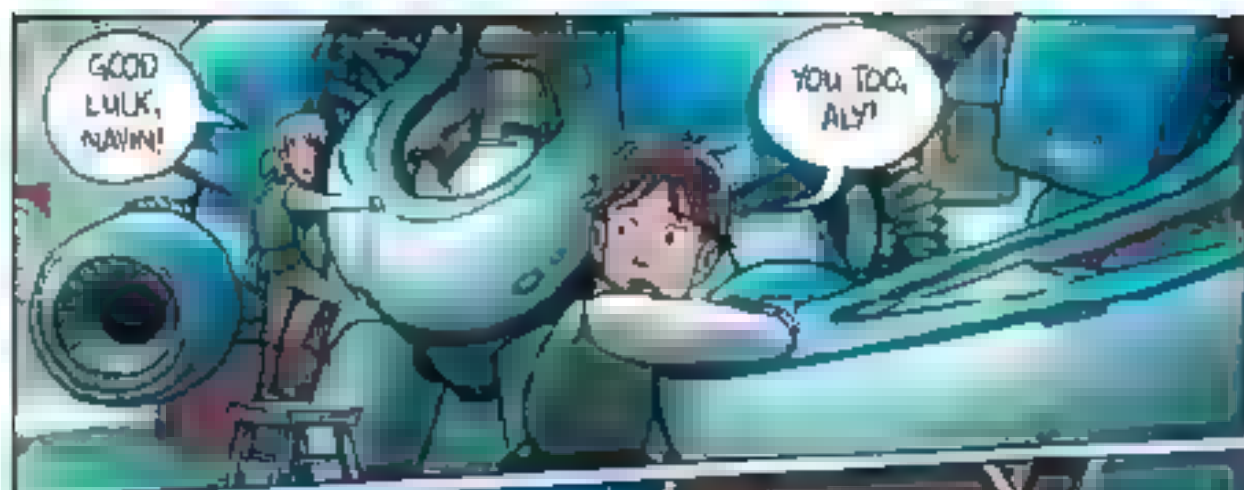
HONESTLY,  
MAYOR,  
YOU CAN'T  
AFFORD TO GO  
OTHERWISE













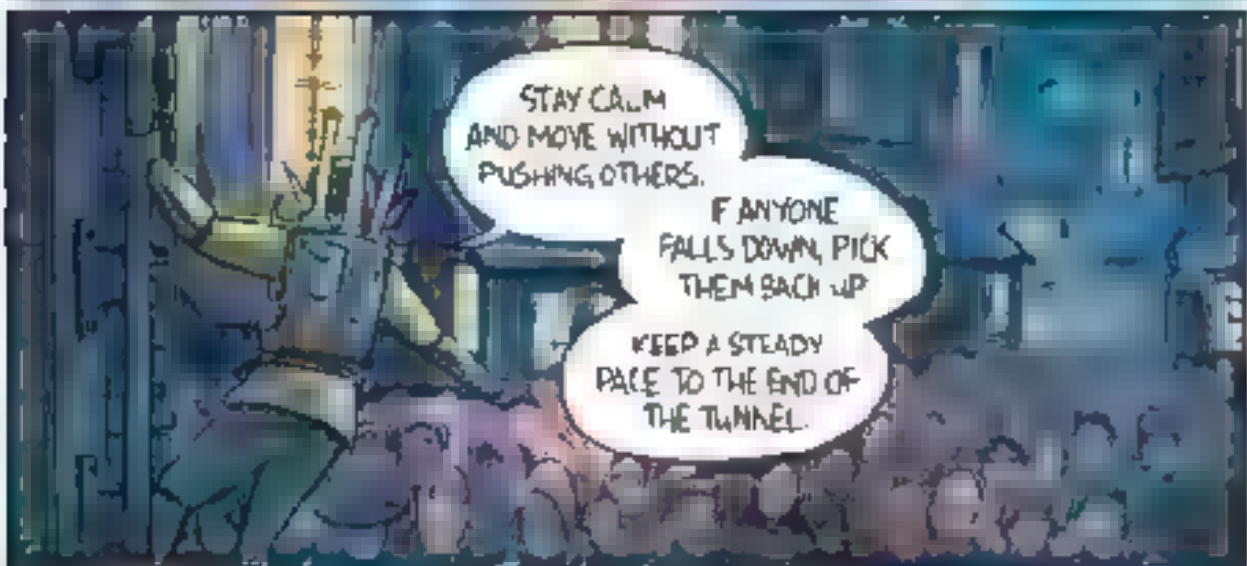
EVERYBODY,  
THIS WAY!  
INTO THE  
TUNNEL!



WHERE'S  
NAVIN?



HE'S OUT  
FIGHTING THE  
SHADOWS, OF  
COURSE!



STAY CALM  
AND MOVE WITHOUT  
PUSHING OTHERS.

IF ANYONE  
FALLS DOWN, PICK  
THEM BACK UP

KEEP A STEADY  
PACE TO THE END OF  
THE TUNNEL.



BUT WHERE  
WILL WE GO,  
RYAN?

WE HAVE  
NOWHERE  
TO GO.

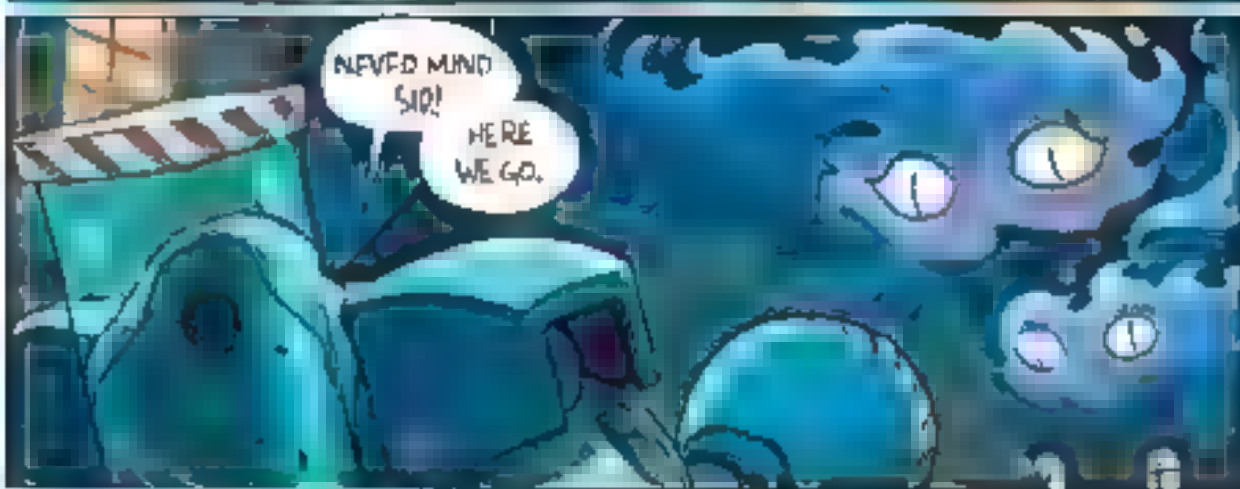
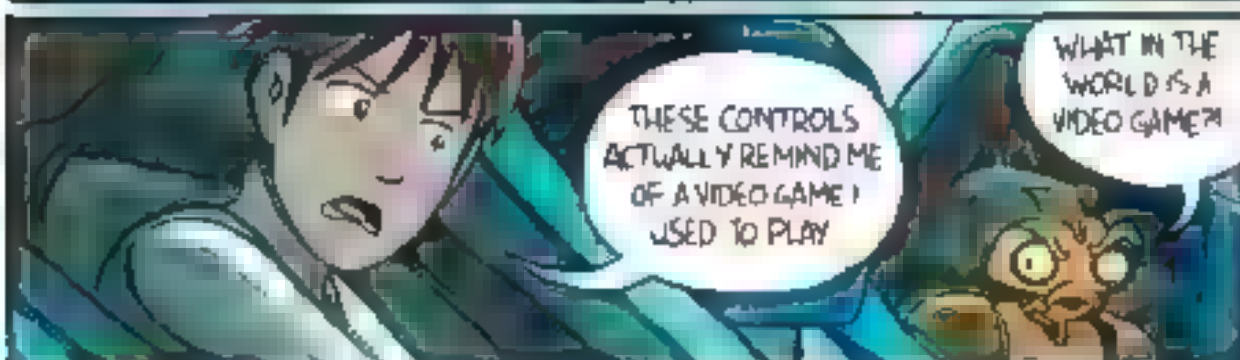
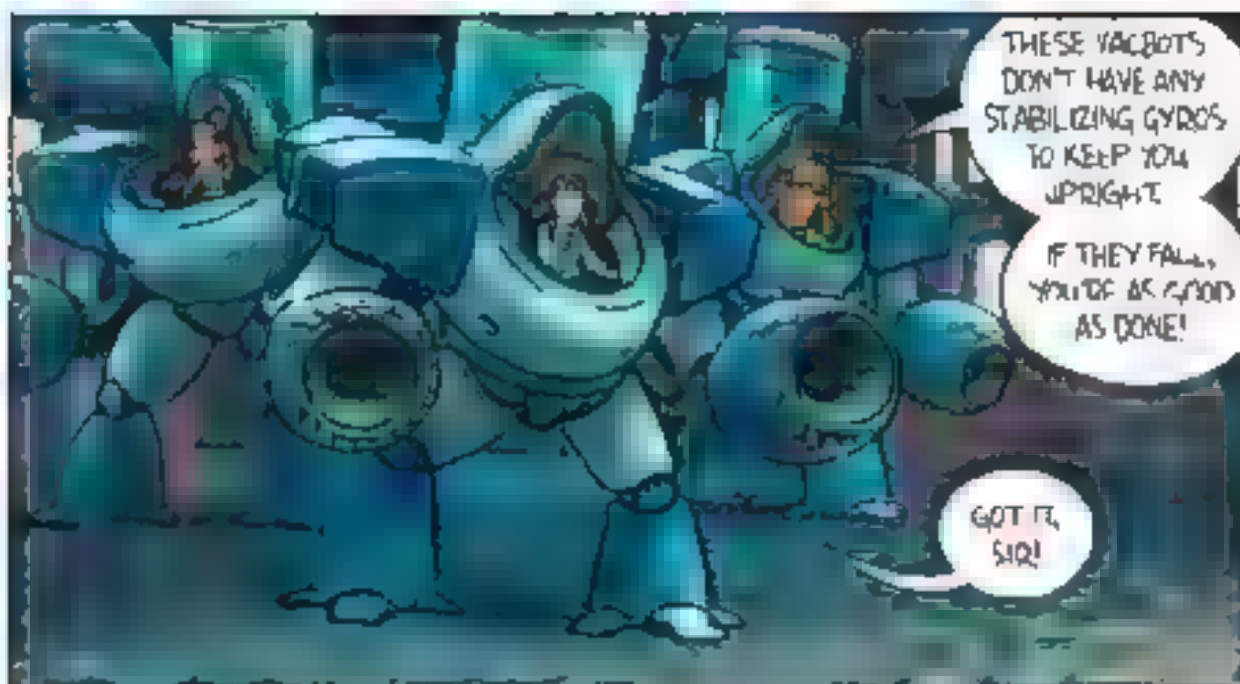


JUST FOCUS  
ON STAYING  
ALIVE.

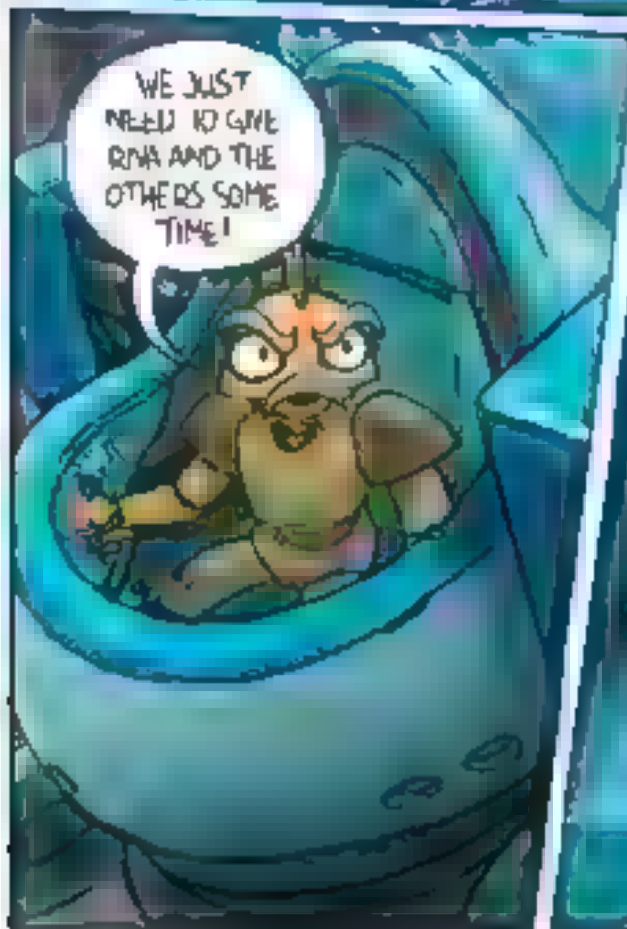
I'LL FIND US  
A NEW HOME, I  
PROMISE.



SOMEWHERE  
SAFER THAN  
HERE.



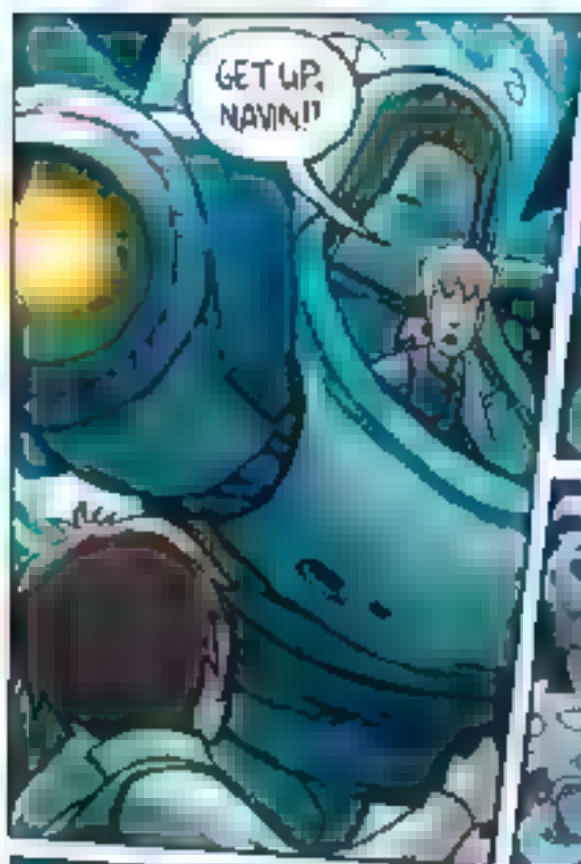




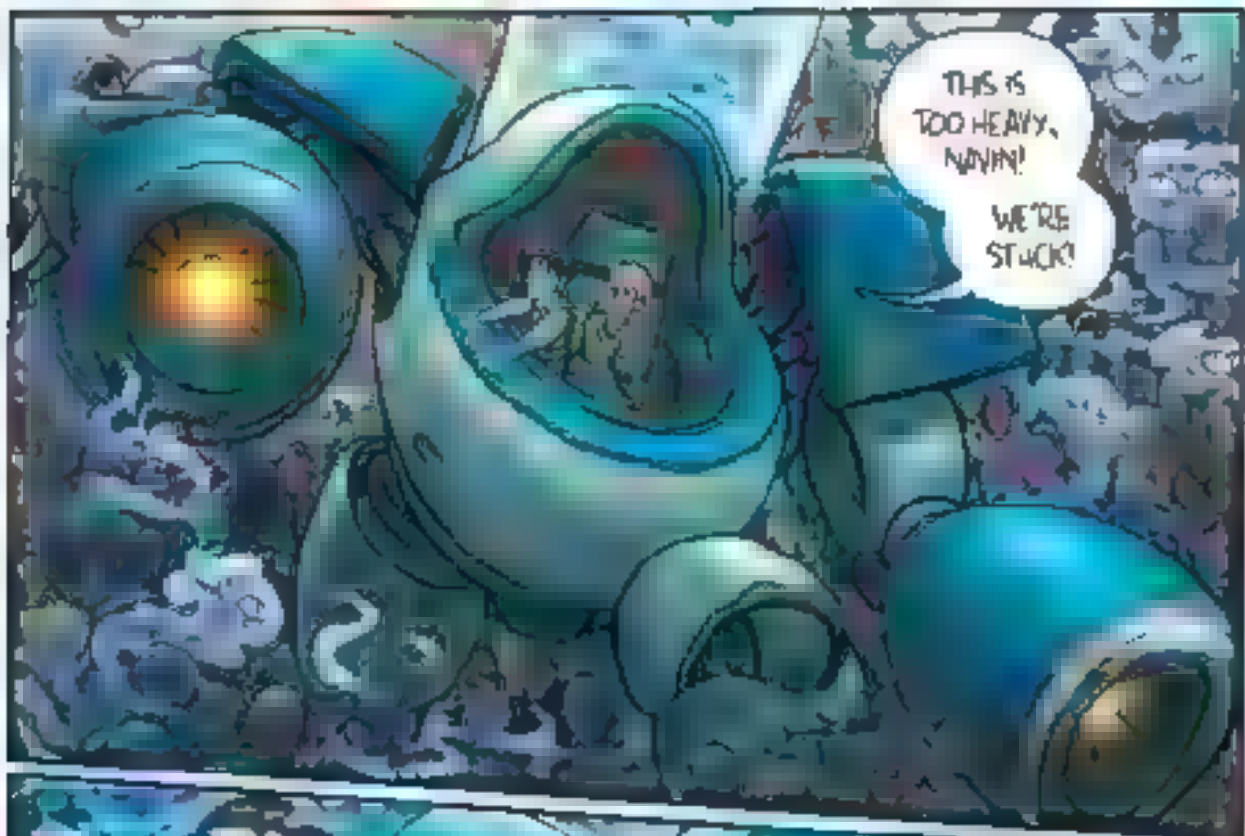












THIS IS  
TOO HEAVY,  
NAVIN!

WE'RE  
STUCK!



I'M AFRAID  
IF WE PUSH TOO  
HARD, PEOPLE  
ARE GOING TO  
GET HURT!



WE'LL HAVE  
TO MAKE A RUN  
FOR IT, ALY

WHATEVER  
WE'RE DOING, LET'S  
DO IT NOW!



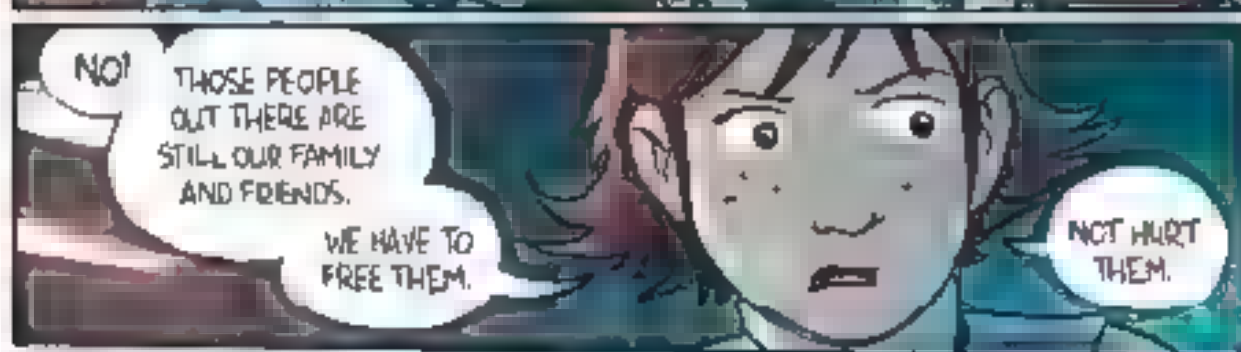
GENERAL  
PIL, CAN YOU  
HEAR ME?

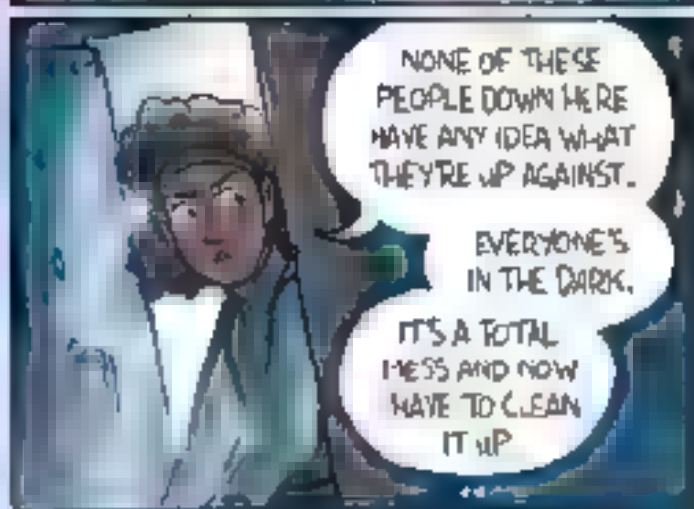
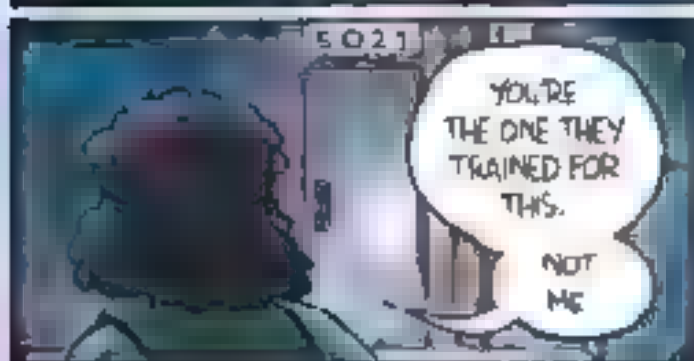
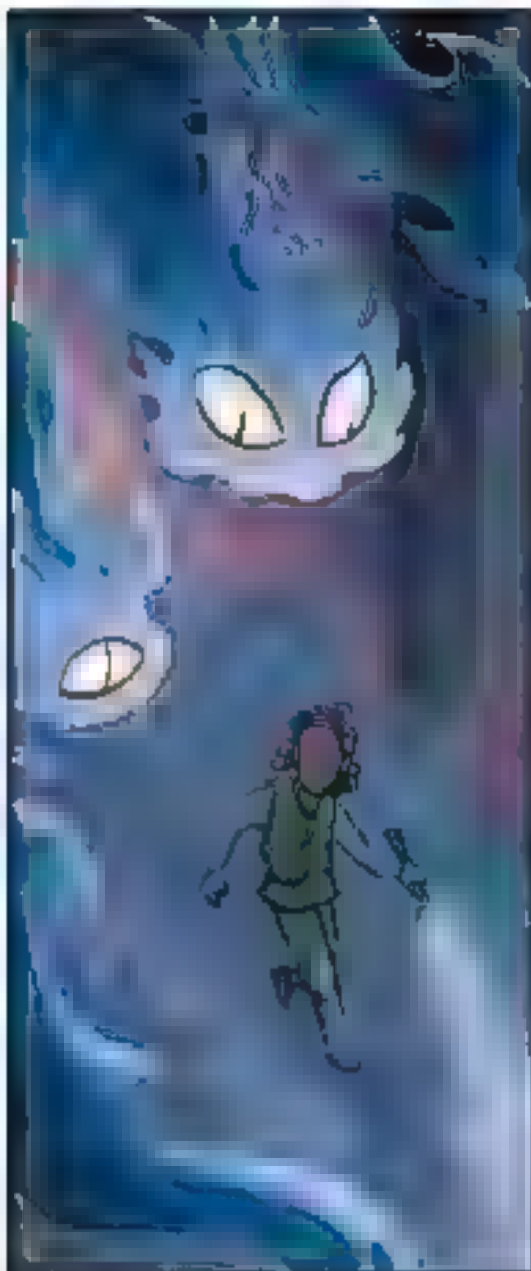
I'M STILL  
HERE, KID!





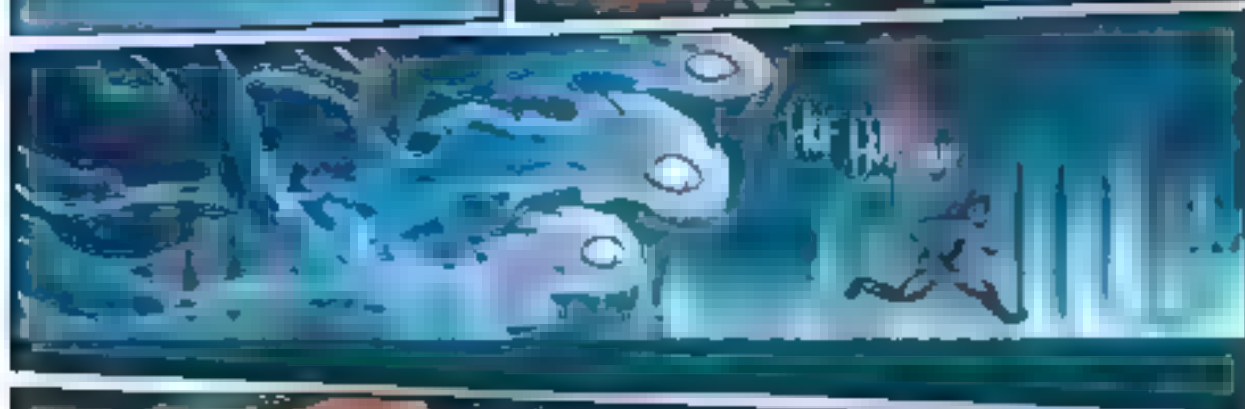
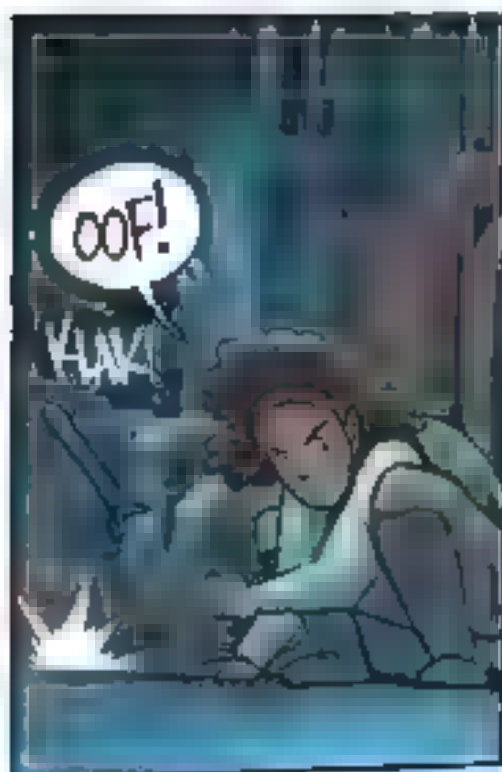


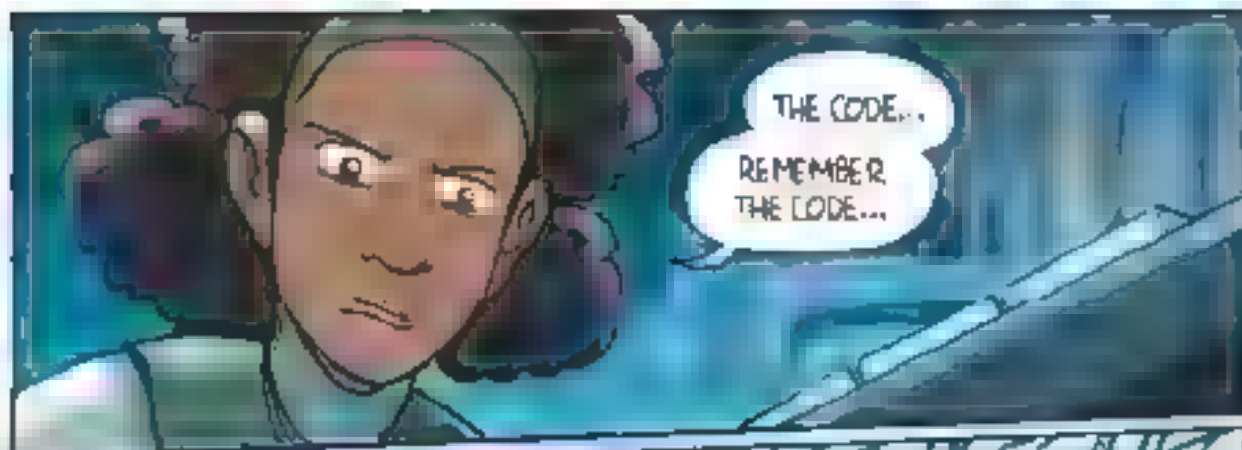




















EMILY!

ARE YOU  
ALL RIGHT?

WHERE ARE  
WE, VIGO?

WHOSE  
MEMORY IS  
THIS?



IT'S  
MINE.

WE'RE IN  
THE GARDEN  
OF KEEPERS.

WHERE  
ARE THE  
OTHERS?

MAX AND TRELLIS  
MUST BE HERE  
SOMEWHERE

WE SHOULD  
HAVE ENTERED  
AT THE SAME  
POINT.

THEN WE BETTER  
FIND THEM BEFORE  
THEY TEAR EACH  
OTHER APART

HEY!

SOMEONE'S  
COMING.

COME BACK  
HERE ELF  
LOVER!

I DON'T  
WANT ANY  
TROUBLE.

THEN YOU  
SHOULDN'T HAVE  
GOTTEN INVOLVED  
WITH THE ELVES.

NOT THE  
MAX YOU  
KNOW.

THAT IS THE  
MAX I KNEW  
WHEN I WAS  
YOUNG.

THIS IS SHORTLY  
BEFORE HE WAS  
SUPPOSED TO DIE.

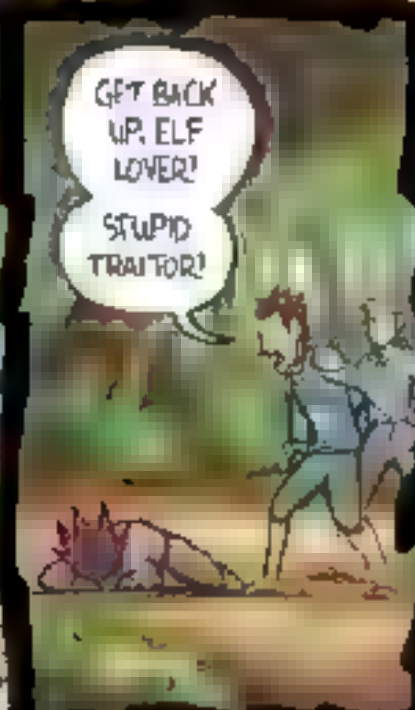
BEFORE  
HE BECAME  
CURSED.

IM WARNING  
YOU GUYS.

YOU BETTER  
LEAVE ME  
ALONE.

IT'S  
MAX!





HAVING TO DEAL WITH  
LOSERS LIKE YOU IS A  
SPECIAL KIND OF  
PUNISHMENT I DON'T  
DESERVE.

WHAT DID  
YOU CALL ME,  
GRIFFIN?

YOU HEARD  
ME JUST FINE--  
LOSER.

DON'T NEED  
FRIENDS LIKE  
YOU.

SELFISH  
PUNKS...

SHRAK!

NO  
HONOR  
NO  
CLASS.

MAX,  
STOP IT!  
YOU'RE  
KILLING HIM!

I CAN'T  
BREATHE..

ERGH!

THEN DO  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT IT.





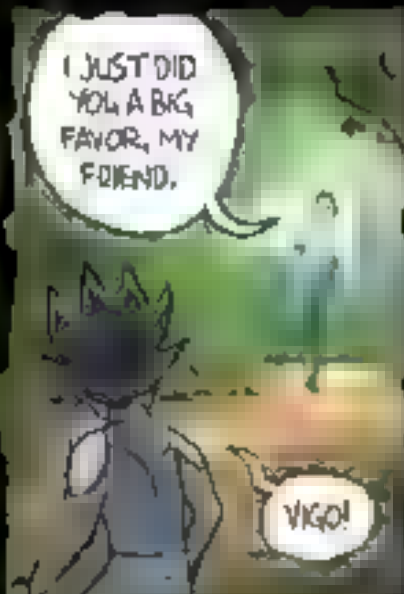


DOOF!!



WHO DID THAT?!

SHOW YOURSELF!!



I JUST DID YOU A BIG FAVOR, MY FRIEND.

VIGO!



IF THAT CLOWN DIED, YOU'D BE PUT IN YARBORO PRISON FOR LIFE.

HE'S NOT WORTH IT.

YOU OUGHT TO STAY OUT OF MY BUSINESS, VIGO.

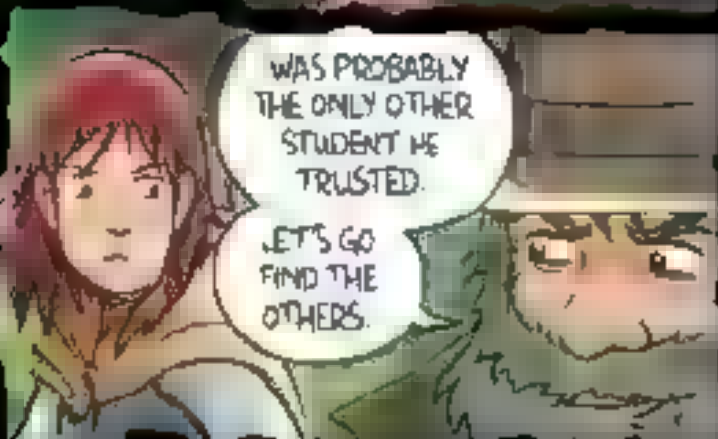


VIGO. IS THAT YOU?

SO LONG AGO IT FEELS LIKE A FORMER LIFE.



WE WENT ON TO BE FRIENDS SOON AFTER.




WAS PROBABLY THE ONLY OTHER STUDENT HE TRUSTED.

LET'S GO FIND THE OTHERS.



WHO IS  
LAYRA?

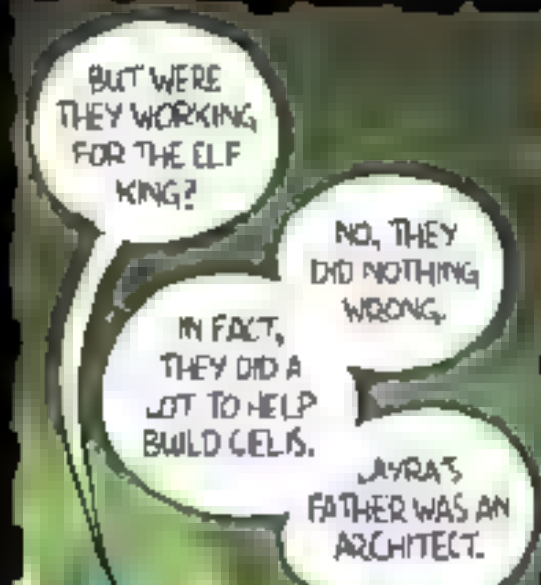
LAYRA WAS  
MAX'S BEST  
FRIEND.  
SHE WAS  
AN ELF.



HER FAMILY WAS  
CONVICTED OF CRIMES  
THEY DIDN'T COMMIT  
AND PUT IN PRISON.

WE ALL KNEW  
THE REAL REASON THEY  
WERE PUT AWAY —

BECAUSE THEY  
WERE ELVES.




BUT WERE  
THEY WORKING  
FOR THE ELF  
KING?

NO, THEY  
DID NOTHING  
WRONG.

IN FACT,  
THEY DID A  
LOT TO HELP  
BUILD CELLS.


LAYRA'S  
FATHER WAS AN  
ARCHITECT.



MAX TRIED TO  
BREAK THEM OUT  
OF PRISON.

BUT THEY DIED  
DURING THE ESCAPE  
ATTEMPT.

AND MAX WAS SENT  
TO THE ICE PRISON OF  
KORTHAN FOR HIS  
ACTIONS.



AND  
LAYRA?

SHE DIED  
WITH HER  
FAMILY.

THE MAX YOU  
KNOW IS A GHOST.  
ONLY A POWERFUL  
CURSE KEEPS HIM  
HERE

AFTER FIFTY  
YEARS, IT SEEMS  
MAX HAS FORGOTTEN  
THE NATURE OF HIS  
ARRANGEMENT

GOES TO SHOW  
HOW NARROW HIS  
FOCUS HAS BECOME  
IN PURSUIT OF  
VENGEANCE.

VIGO...

DO YOU THINK  
ALL STONEKEEPERS  
ARE CURSED?

MAYBE THAT'S  
WHY WE WERE  
CHOSEN.

NOT BECAUSE  
WE WERE THE MOST  
POWERFUL

BUT BECAUSE  
WE WERE THE MOST  
VULNERABLE.

HM.

THERE  
YOU ARE!

THIS MUST  
BE YOUR MEMORY  
OF THIS PLACE,  
VIGO.

MY VERSION  
WOULD BE MUCH  
LESS IDYLIC.





UNFORTUNATELY,  
WE WILL NOT FIND  
THE VOICE HERE.

HE INSISTS  
THAT I MEET HIM  
IN VALCOR.

AND YOU  
OBLIGE HIM.

WE STILL HAVE  
THE ELEMENT OF  
SURPRISE, VIGO.

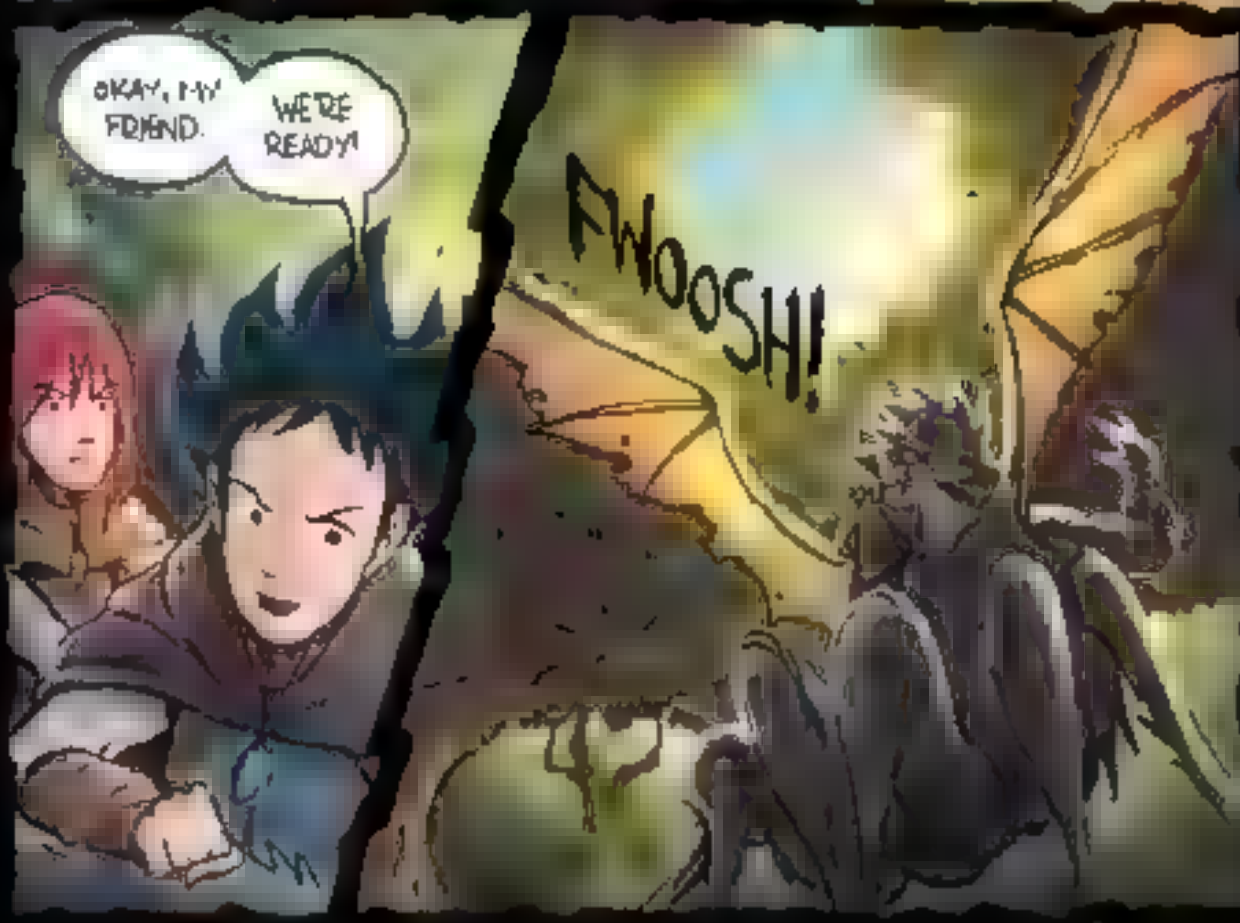


I DON'T  
THINK YOU  
DO, MAX.

GIVE ME  
YOUR HAND.

ALWAYS THE  
PESSIMIST,  
VIGO.

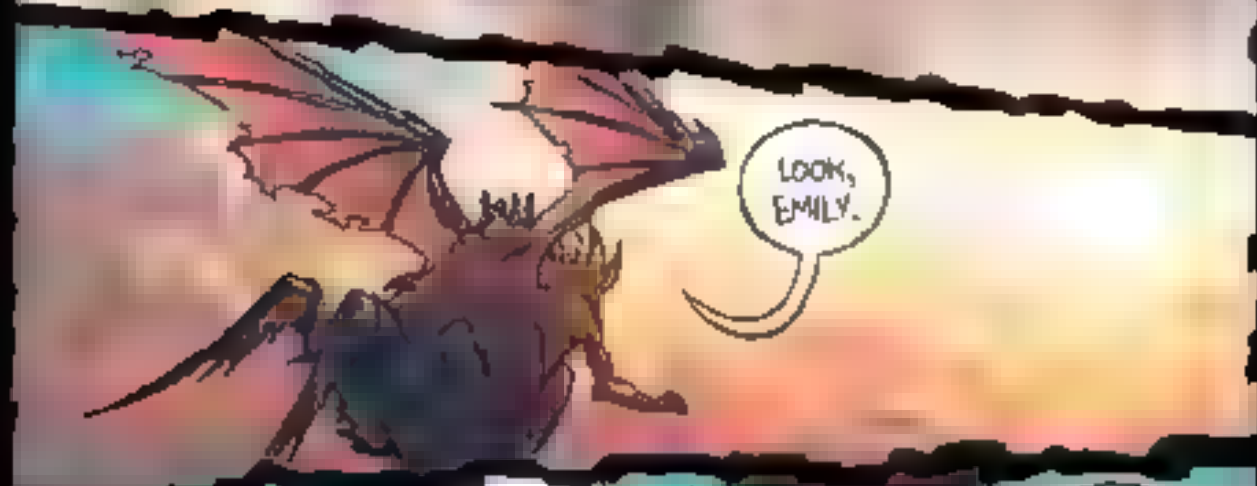
AND  
ALWAYS  
WRONG.



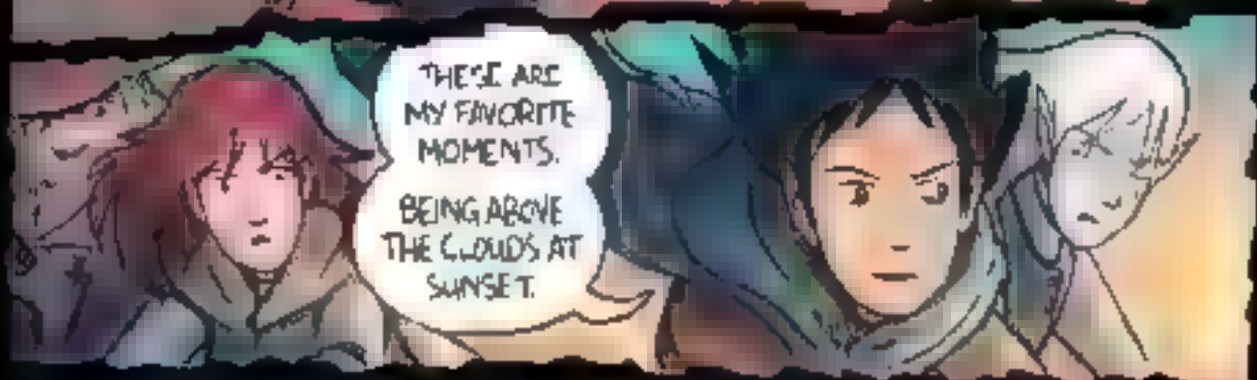
OKAY, MY  
FRIEND.

WE'RE  
READY!

FWOOSH!



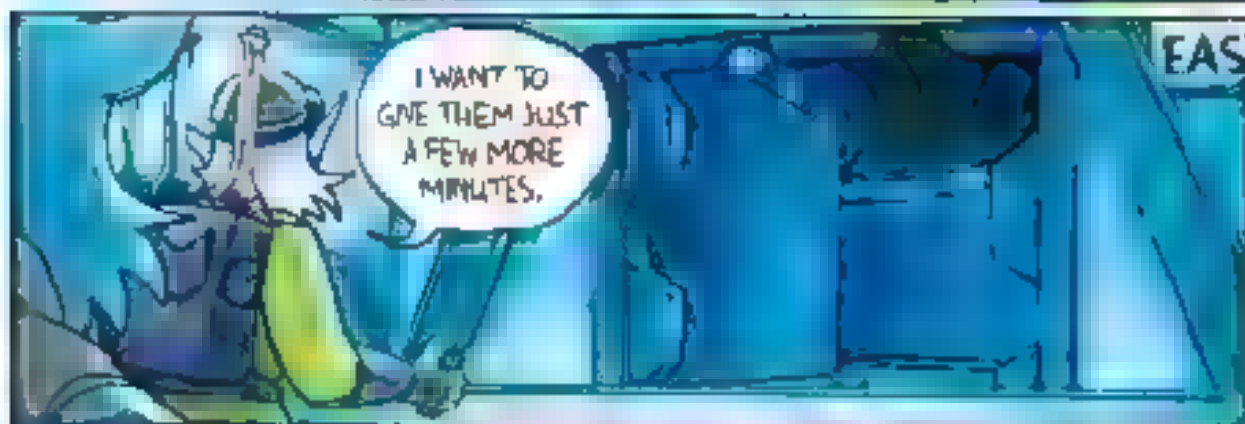
LOOK,  
EMILY.



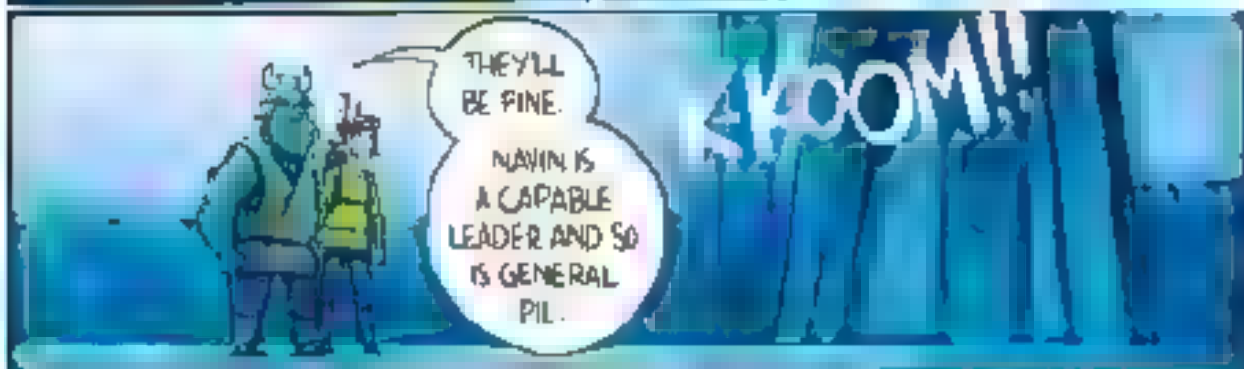
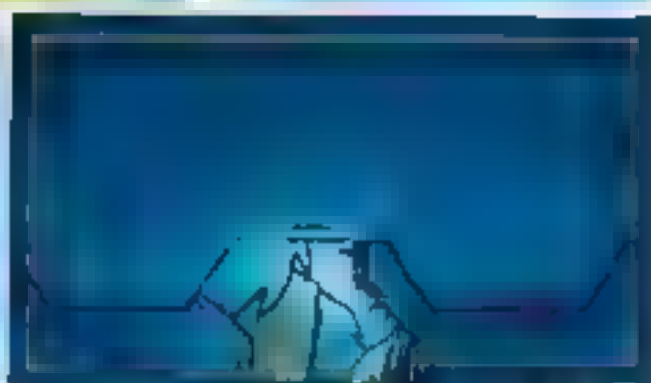
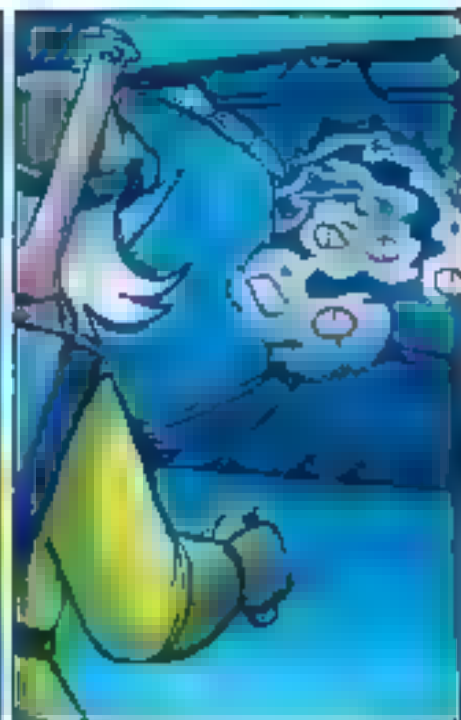
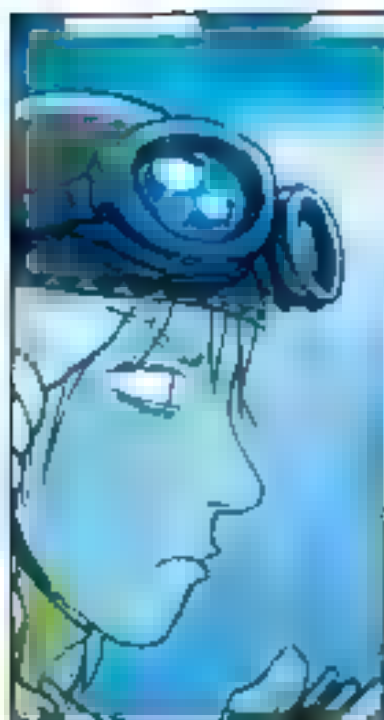
THESE ARE  
MY FAVORITE  
MOMENTS.  
BEING ABOVE  
THE CLOUDS AT  
SUNSET.

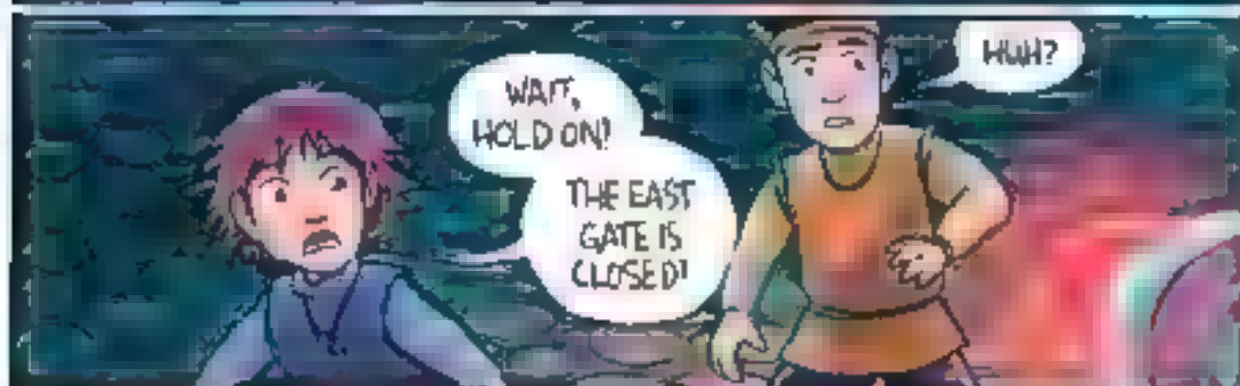
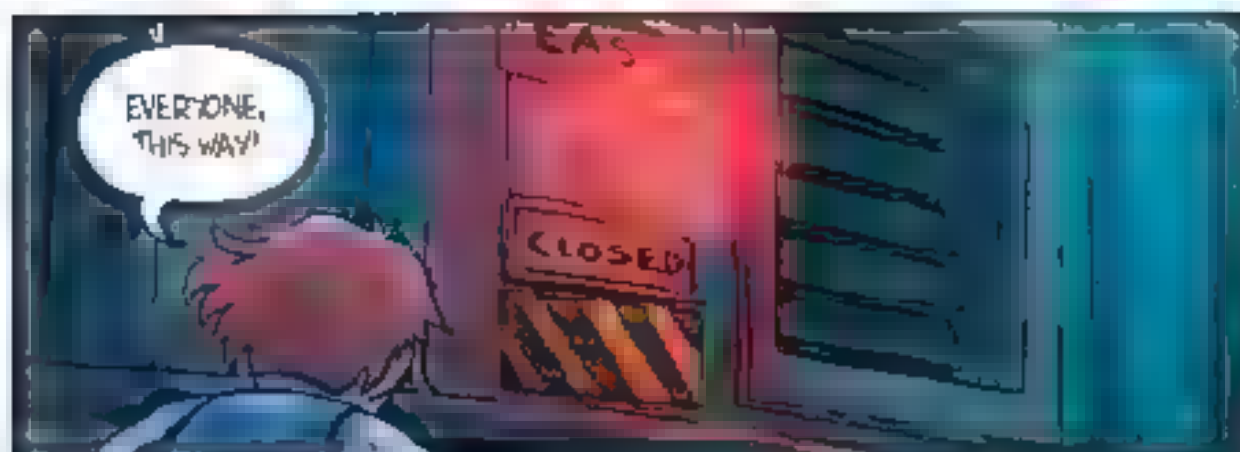


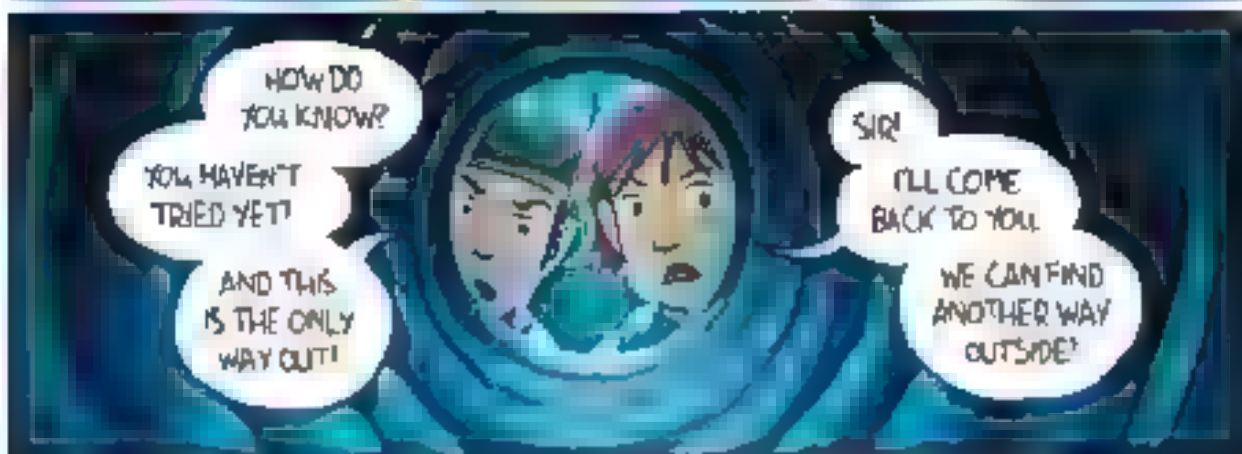
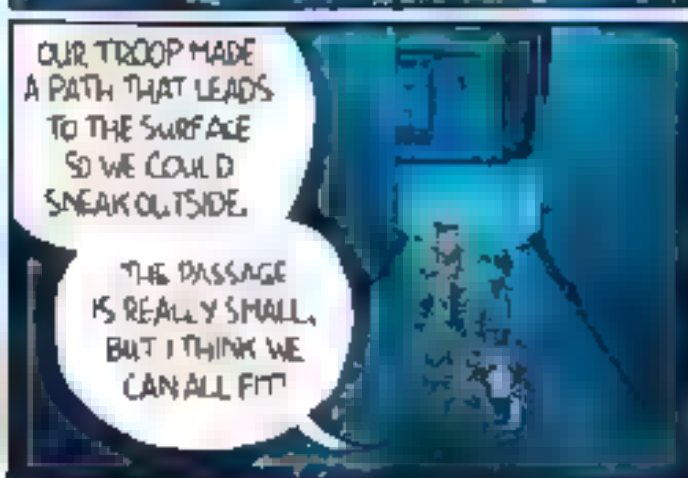
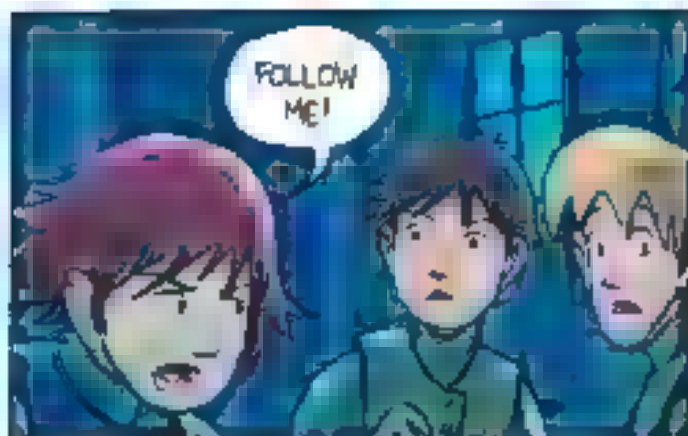
FOR JUST  
A FEW SHORT  
MOMENTS, I CAN  
FORGET THE WORLD  
BELOW



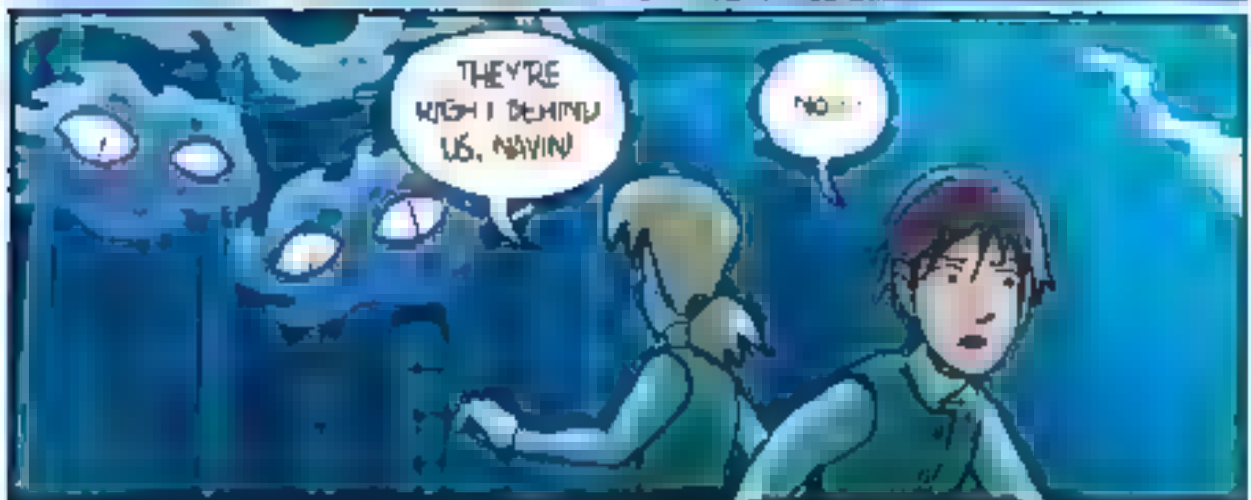
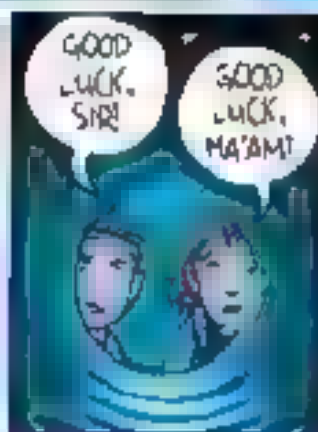
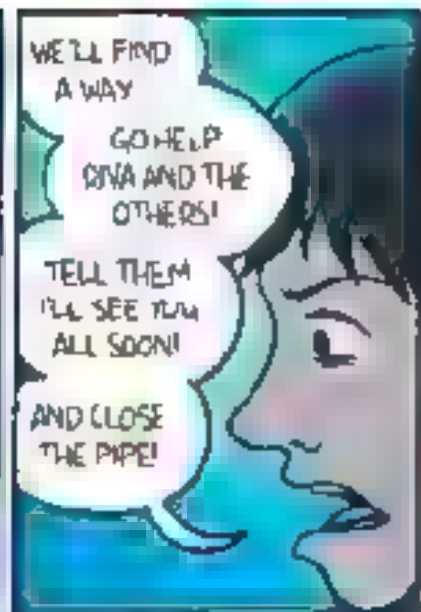


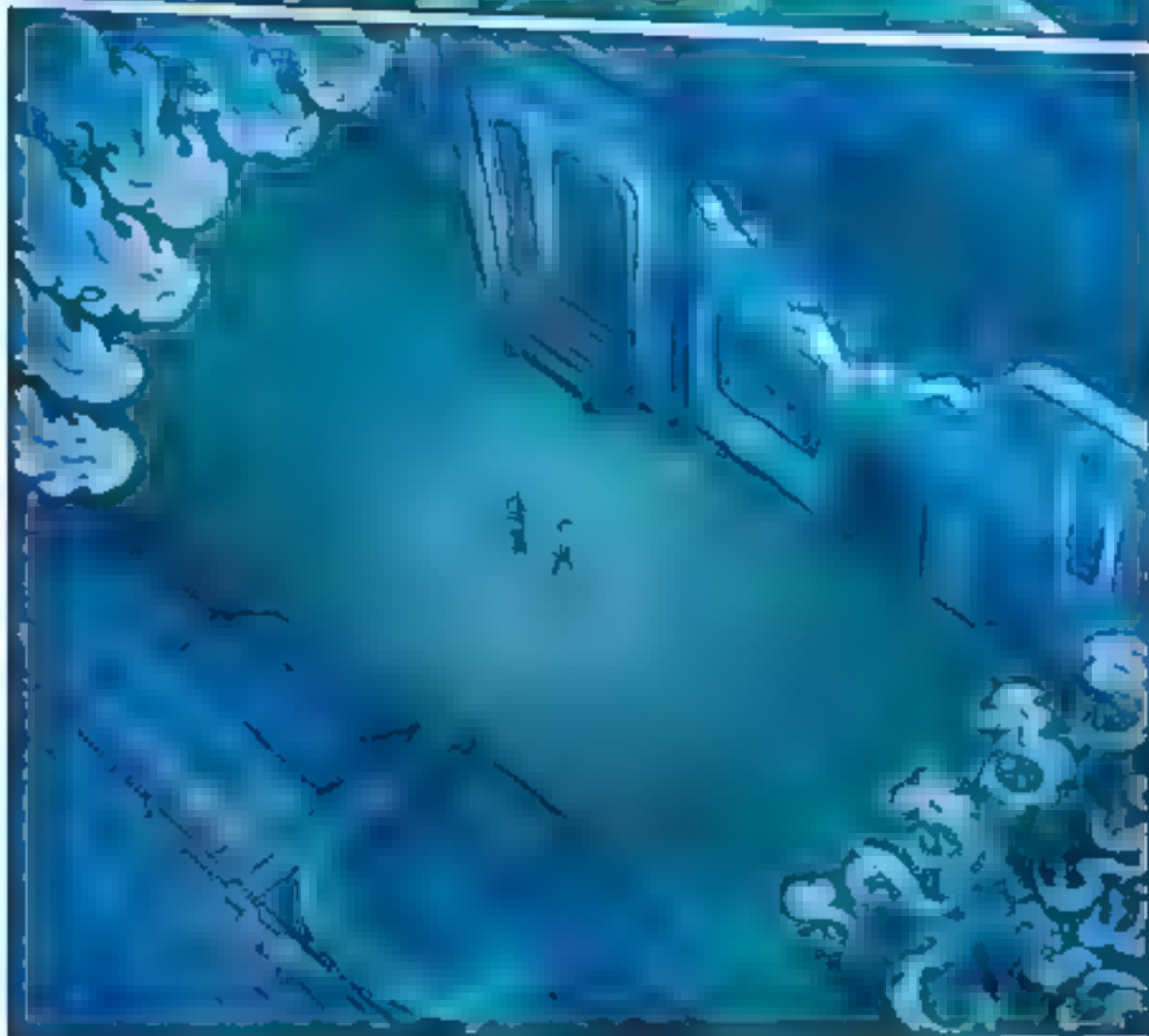


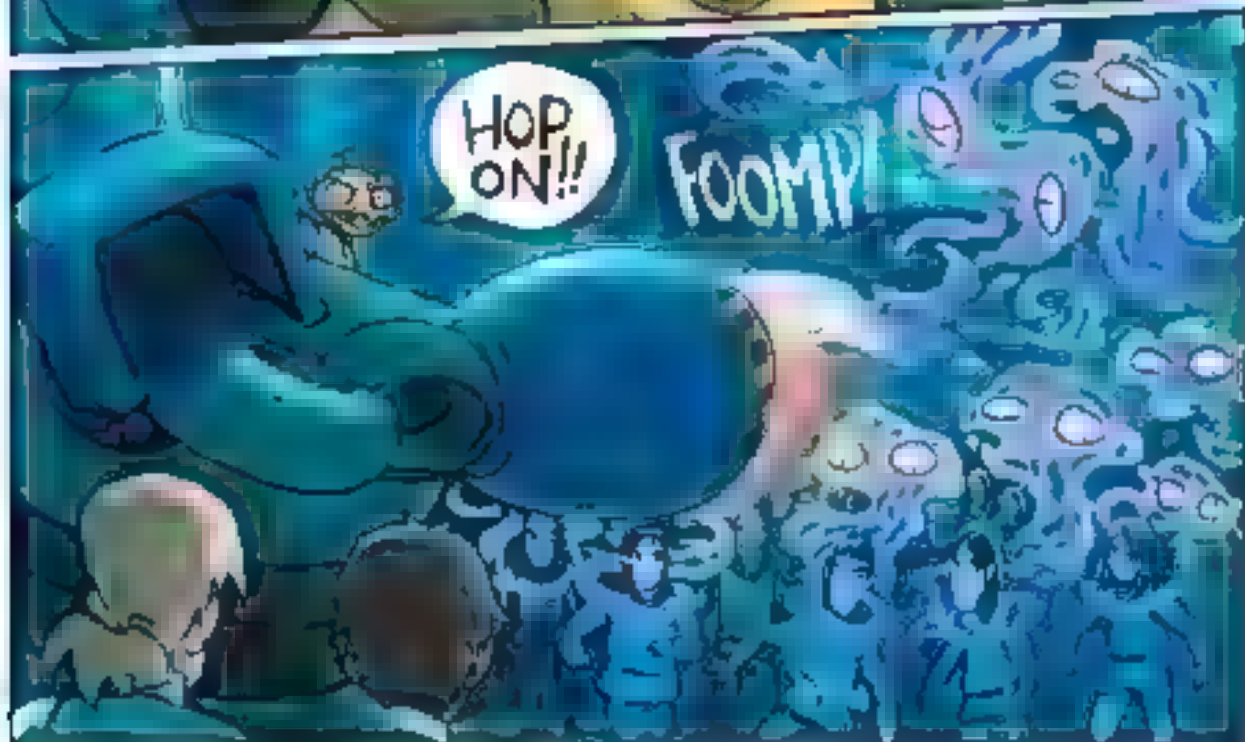
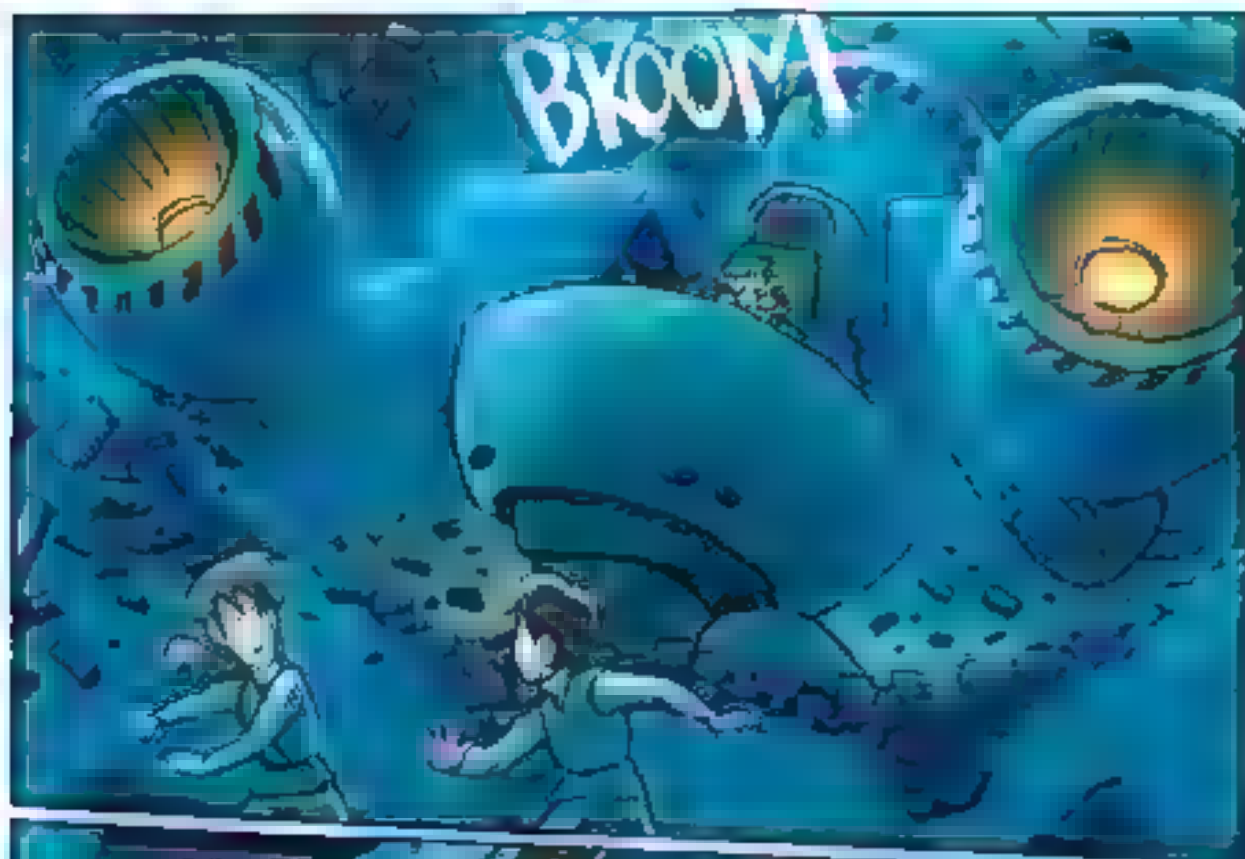




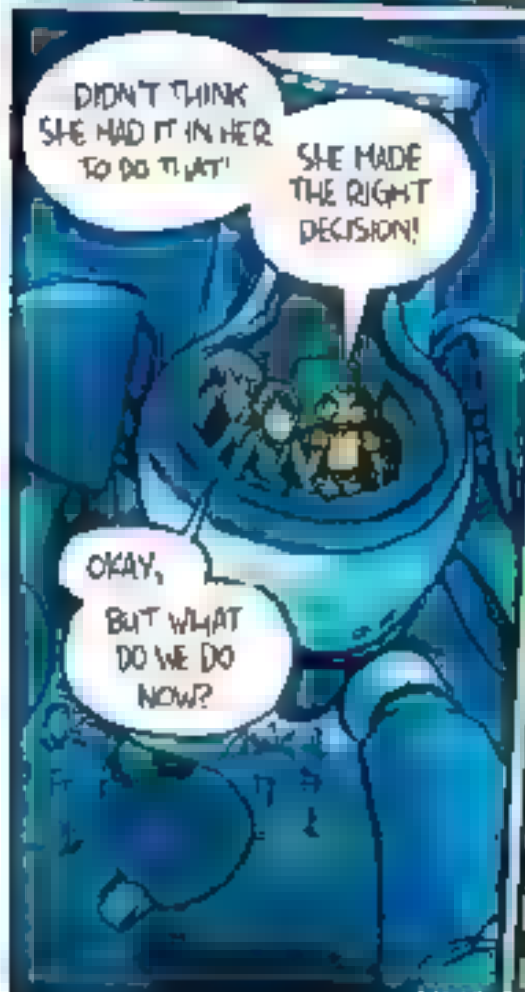
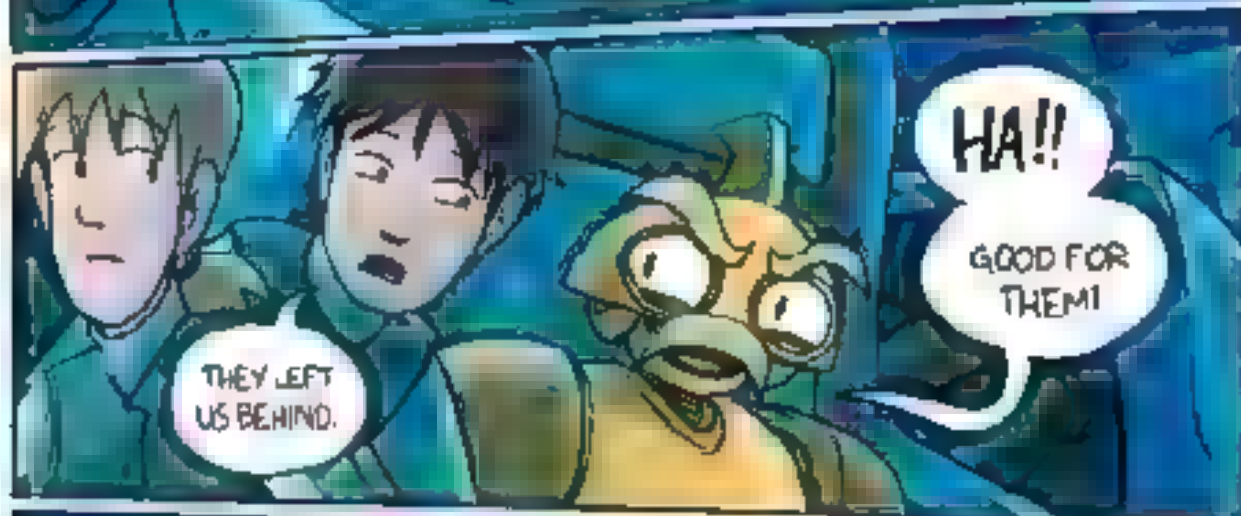


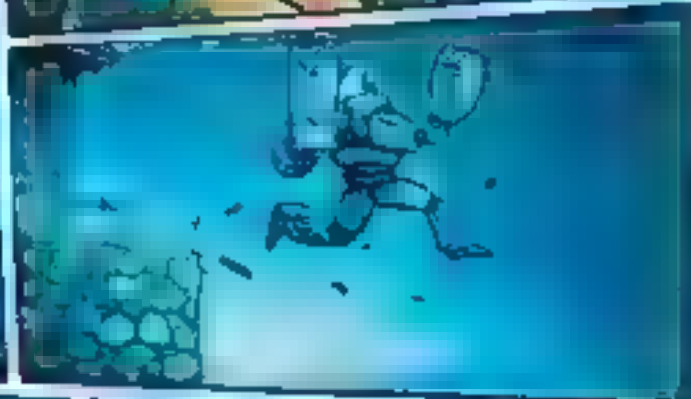


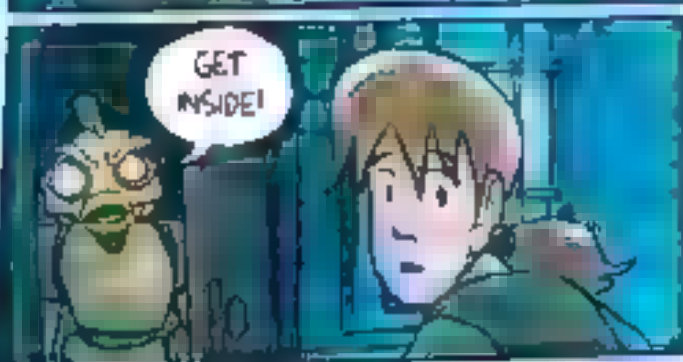
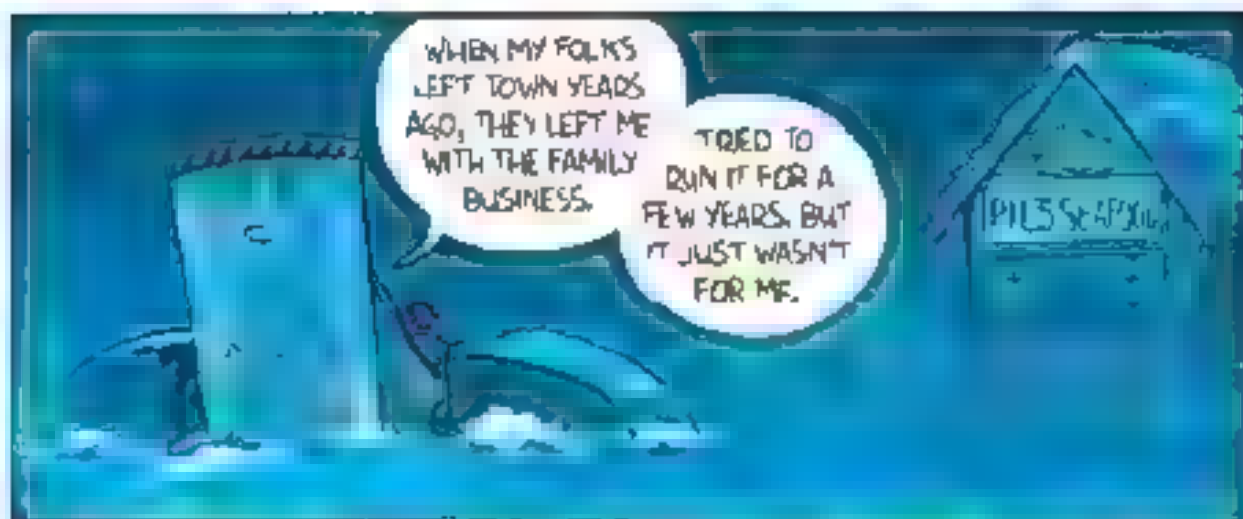




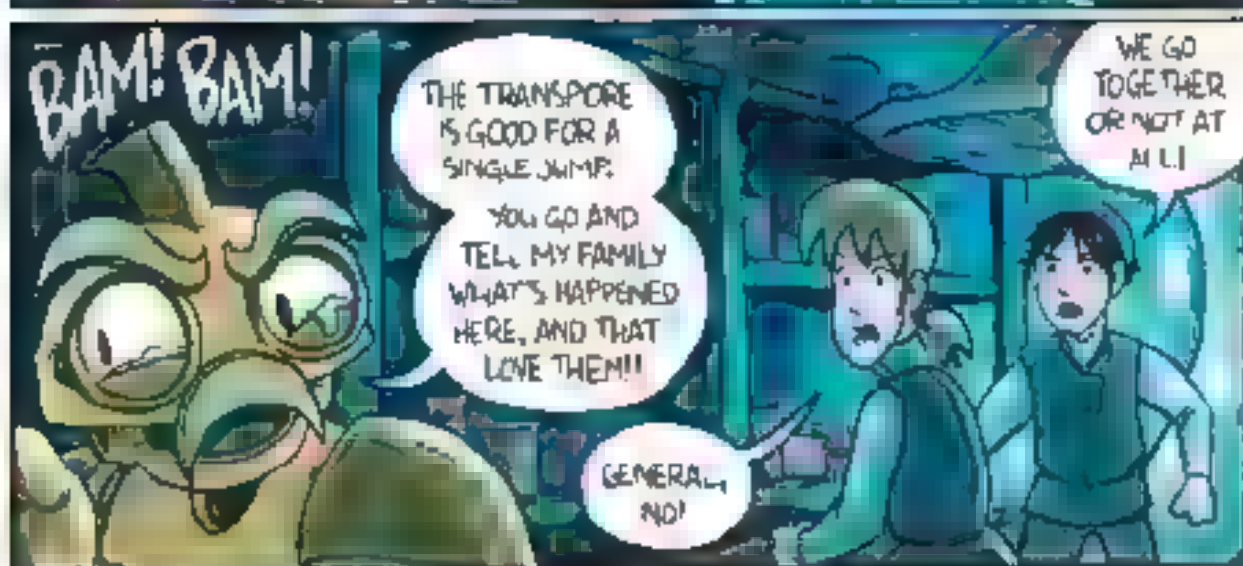
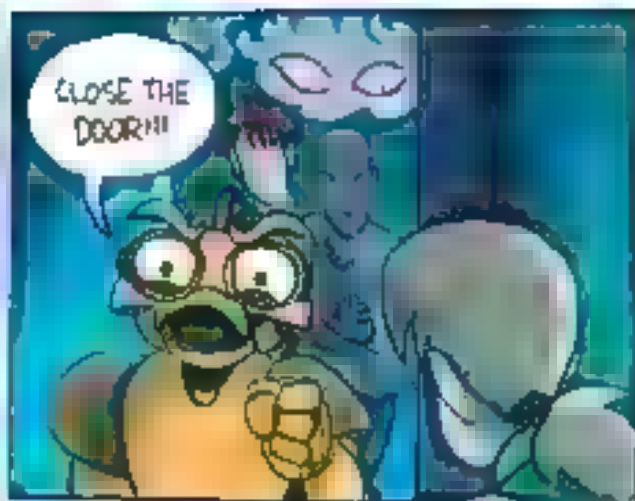


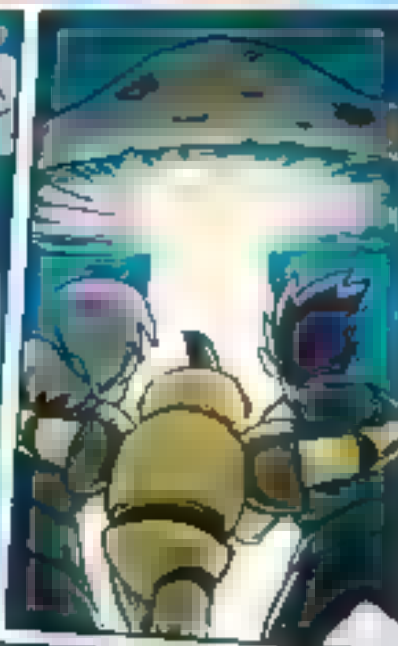














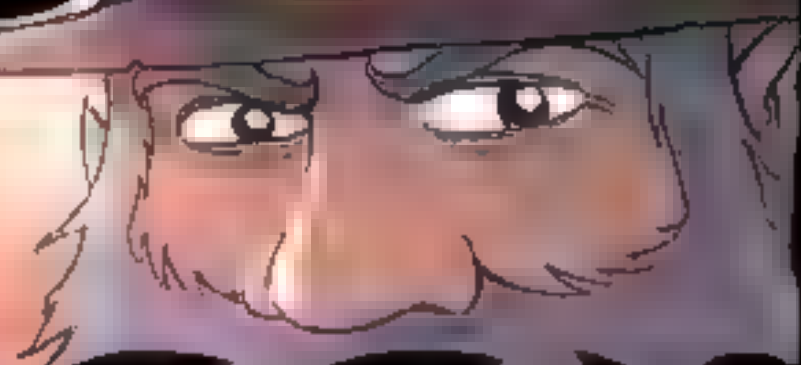






AH, THEN THIS  
IS WHERE THE  
NEW KINGS ARE  
CROWNED.

IT'S ALSO  
WHERE KINGS  
ARE LAID TO  
REST WHEN  
THEY DIE.



THEIR BODIES  
ARE BURIED HERE  
BESIDE KINGS OF  
THE PAST

**RUMBLE  
RUMBLE  
RUM**




**RUMBLE RUMBLE**

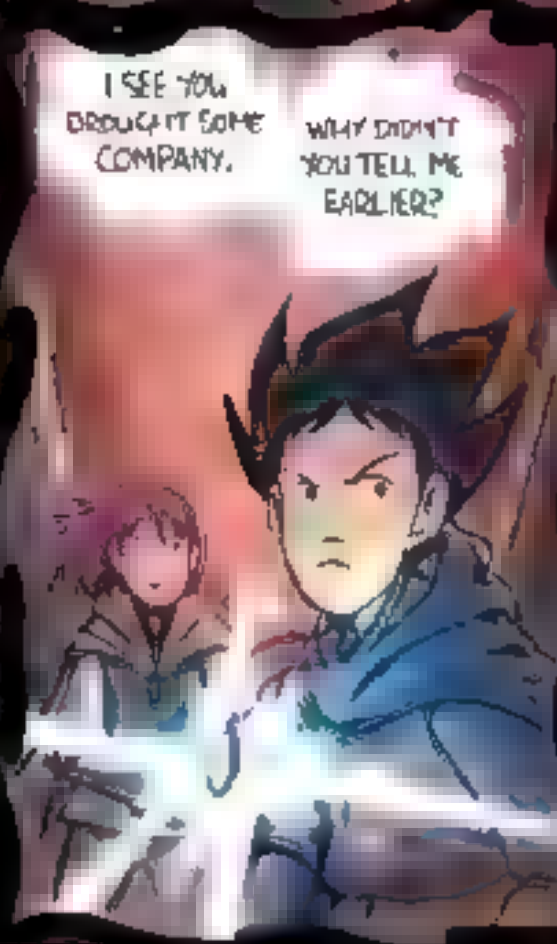
WHAT IS  
THAT?

THE VOKE  
KNOWS WE'RE  
HERE.






MY DEAD  
MAX,  
I'M VERY  
DISAPPOINTED.



I SEE YOU  
BROUGHT SOME  
COMPANY.

WHY DIDN'T  
YOU TELL ME  
EARLIER?



I WOULD  
HAVE PREFERRED  
TEA AND CAKES.

THIS WAS NOT  
MEANT TO BE A  
CORDIAL EVENT.

UNLESS YOU  
WANT TO THINK OF  
IT AS A FAREWELL  
PARTY






A FAREWELL  
PARTY?  
FOR WHOM?




GET READY,  
EMILY

THIS WILL  
NOT END  
WELL.



OH, THIS  
IS A PARTY  
FOR ME.




WE CAN  
DEFEAT YOU.



YOU'RE  
OVERMATCHED.

EMILY HAS  
THE ABILITY TO  
DESTROY SHADOW  
SPIRITS.

AND CHRONOS  
IS ALLEDIA'S MOST  
POWERFUL MOUNTAIN  
GIANT.



AM, RIGHT.  
YOUR  
FAITHFUL  
STEED.

I AM SORRY  
MAX PULLED YOU  
INTO THIS, OLD  
MAN.

GOOD LUCK  
IN YOUR NEXT  
LIFE.

NEXT  
LIFE?

No!

WAIT.

KRUNCH!

SLITCH!

CHRONOS...


IT WILL TAKE MUCH  
MORE THAN A GIANT BUG  
TO INTIMIDATE ME,  
MY FRIEND.

YOU'LL  
PAY FOR  
THIS!

FASH!

NO, I  
WON'T.







DOOF!




'NGH!



DID YOU EXPECT  
TO SIMPLY WALK  
INTO MY HOUSE  
AND SWEEP ME  
OUT?




WE'RE  
STRONGER  
THAN YOU.




NOT HERE,  
MY FRIEND.




NOT IN  
MY HOME.



YOU'VE BEEN  
A GOOD HELPER,  
BUT I THINK IT IS  
TIME TO MOVE  
ON...



PUT HIM  
DOWN!



HE IS A  
CANCER TO  
US ALL,  
EMILY.

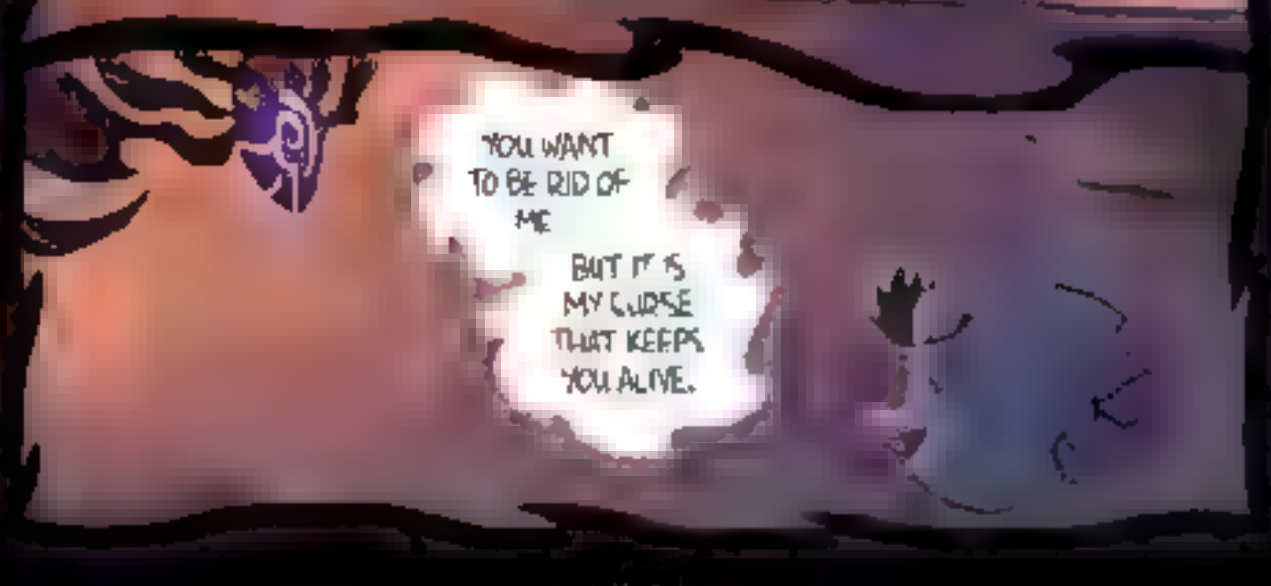


I SAID  
PUT HIM  
DOWN.

AS YOU  
WISH.




OOF!




YOU WANT  
TO BE RID OF  
ME

BUT IT IS  
MY CURSE  
THAT KEEPS  
YOU ALIVE.




DO YOU HAVE ANY  
IDEA WHO YOU'RE  
DEALING WITH?

THE ELF KING IS  
NOT SOMEONE YOU  
SHOULD TAKE  
LIGHTLY



AND FOR  
THAT MATTER,  
NEITHER AM I.

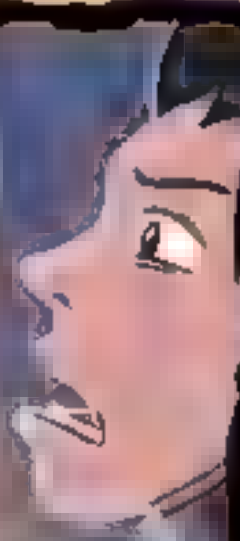
GAVE YOU  
A CHANCE TO  
HAVE YOUR  
REVENGE.




WITH THIS  
CHANCE, YOU  
KILLED COUNTLESS  
SOLDIERS AND  
CIVILIANS.

HAS IT BROUGHT  
YOU THE SOLACE YOU  
SEEK?

HAS IT BROUGHT  
YOU PEACE?



MOST OF THE  
YOUNG SOLDIERS  
KNEW EXACTLY WHAT  
THEIR ANCESTORS  
WERE GUILTY OF  
DOING.

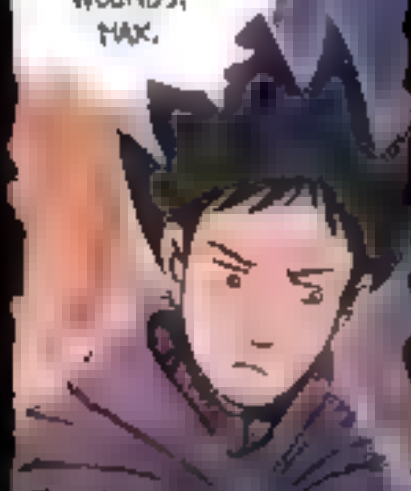


AND YET YOU  
PUNISHED THEM  
DEARLY.

YOU SHOWED  
NO MERCY IN  
YOUR ACTIONS.



TIME CAN  
HEAL MANY  
WOUNDS,  
MAX.



UNLESS  
YOU WORK  
TO DISALLOW  
IT.

WHY  
WOULD DO  
THAT?



BECAUSE  
THERE ARE SOME  
MEMORIES YOU  
REFUSE TO PUT  
AWAY

MAX.



LAYRA?

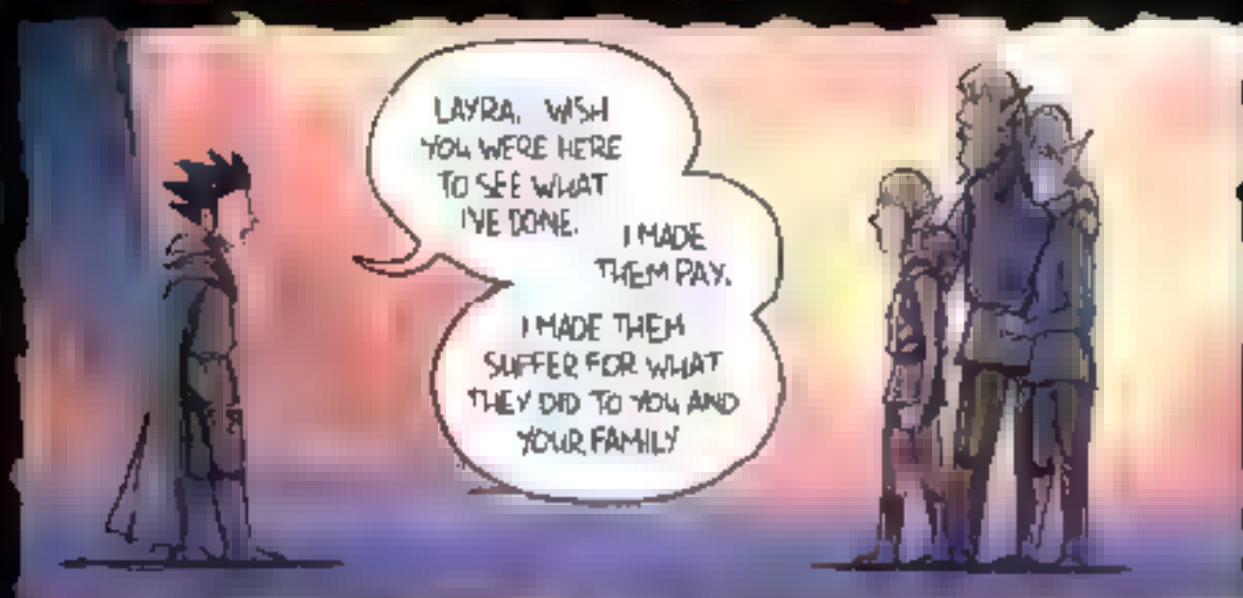


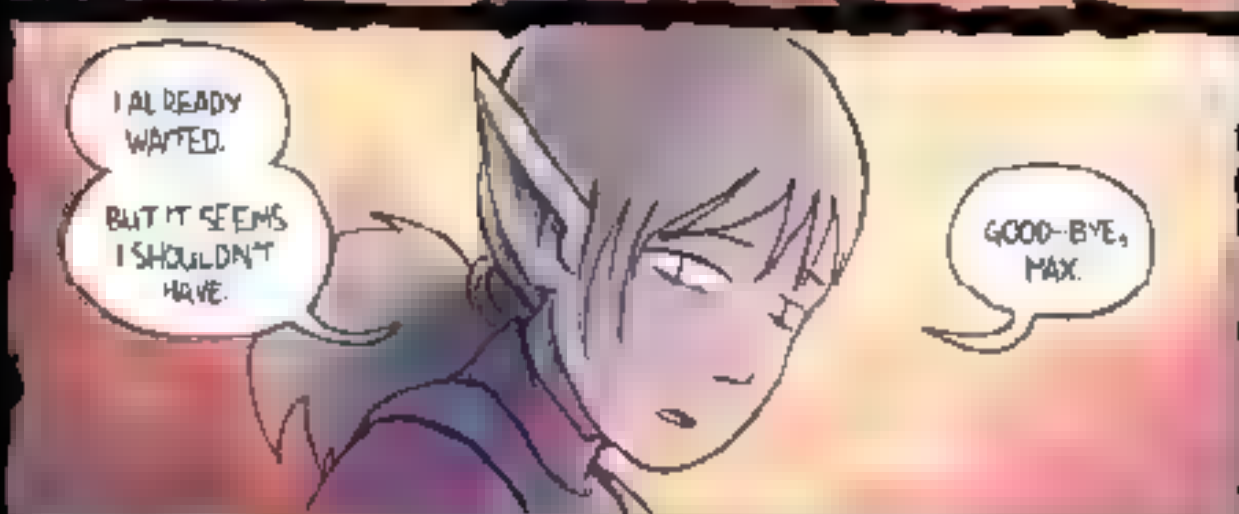
WE NEVER  
ASKED THIS  
OF YOU.



PLEASE,  
STOP.









LAYRA!



DON'T  
LEAVE.



MAX, WALK  
AWAY FROM  
THIS.

EMILY



SHOULD  
HAVE DIED A LONG  
TIME AGO.





SO...

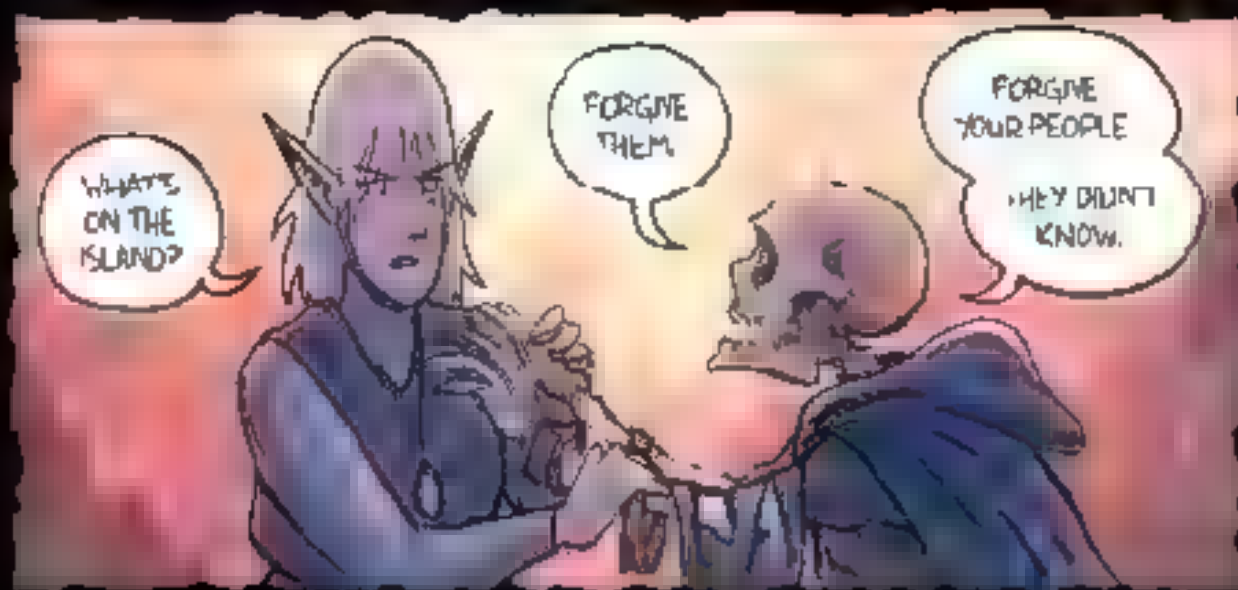
IS THIS  
IT?

IN A MOMENT  
YOU WILL RETURN  
TO YOUR NATURAL  
STATE.

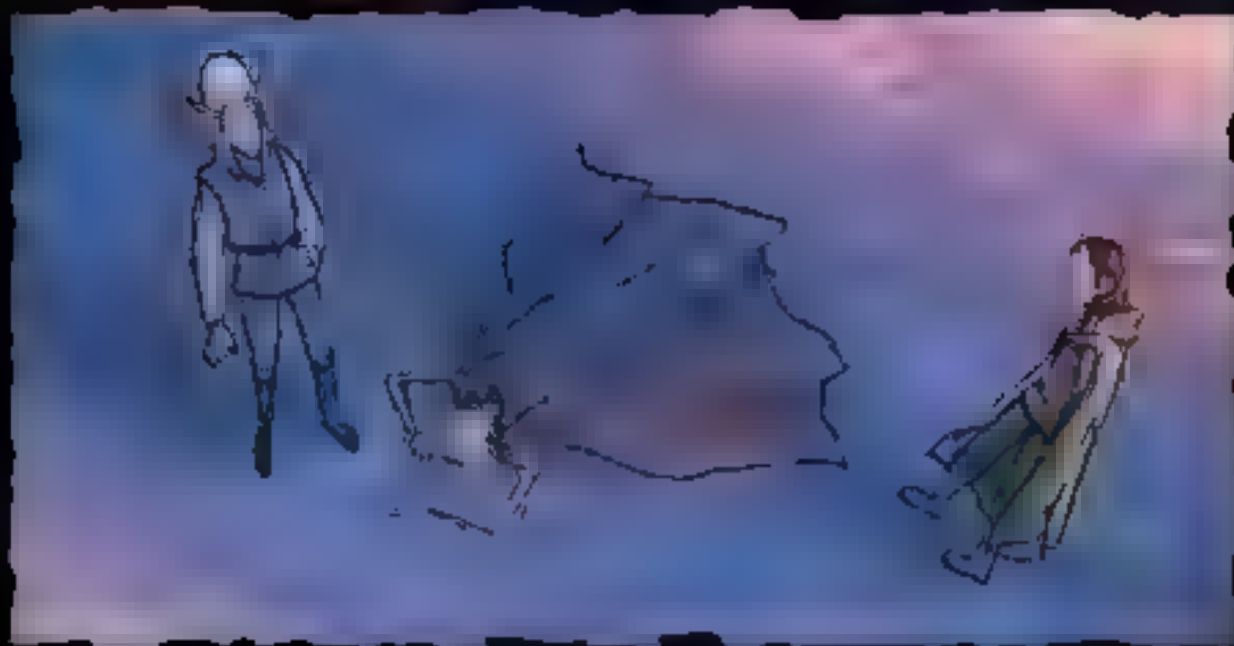
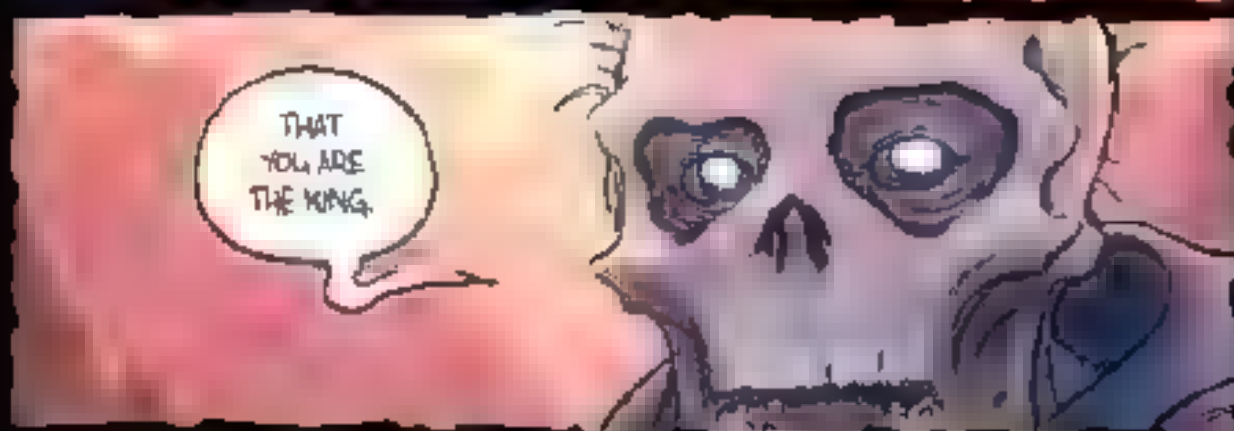
YOU ARE GOING  
TO APPEAR AS YOU  
WOULD HAD I NOT  
INTERVENED TO  
PROLONG YOUR  
LIFE.

IF YOU HAVE  
ANY LAST WORDS  
I SUGGEST YOU  
SAY THEM NOW.









DESPITE HIS  
SHORTCOMINGS,  
MAX WAS A GOOD  
HELPER.

BUT HIS LOSS  
IS YOUR GAIN, MY  
FRIENDS.



WE'RE NOT  
YOUR SERVANTS.

AND WE ARE  
DEFINITELY NOT  
YOUR FRIENDS.



THOOM

THE SHIP YOU BOARDED  
WAS KEPT Afloat BY  
MAX'S CONSIDERABLE  
POWERS.

WITH HIM  
GONE, THE  
SHIP WILL  
FALL.

KRAKOOOM!!

LOOK  
OUT!

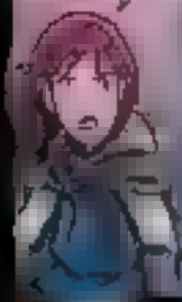


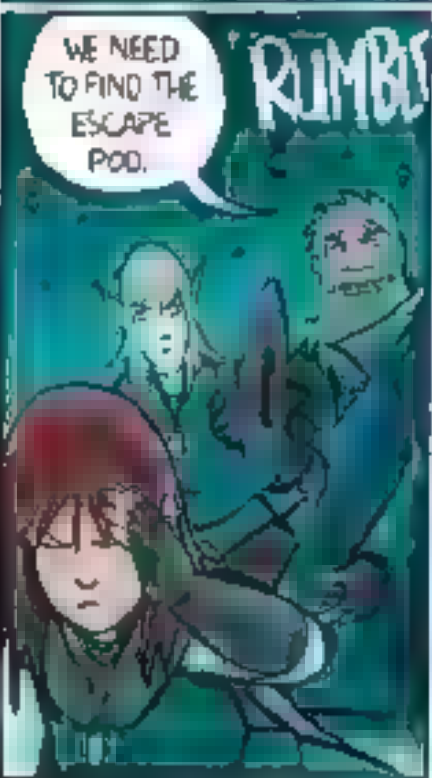
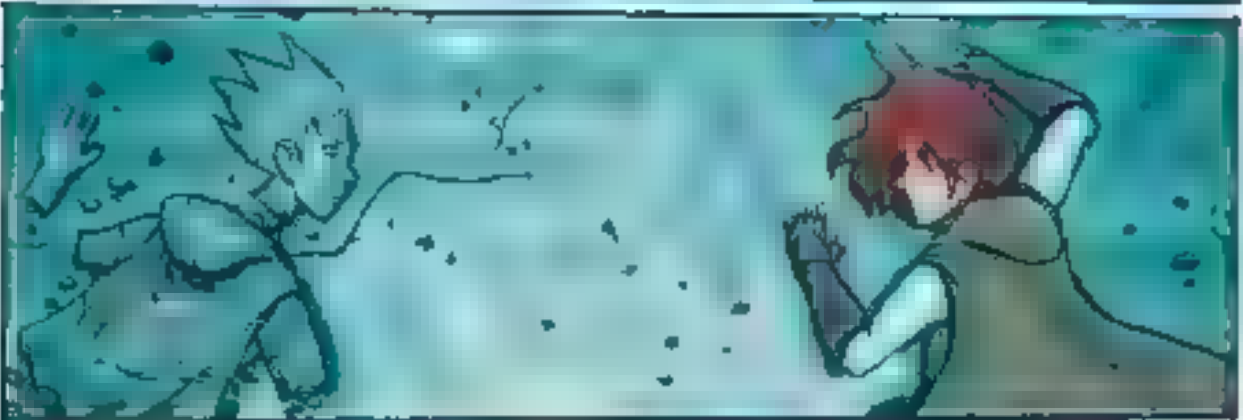
I HAVE DONE WHAT I CAN  
TO KEEP THE SHIP FROM  
CRASHING, BUT I CAN'T  
HOLD IT FOR LONG.

I LIKE TO  
TAKE CARE OF  
MY INVEST-  
MENTS.

NOW  
GO. STAY  
ALIVE.

WHY  
HELP  
US?









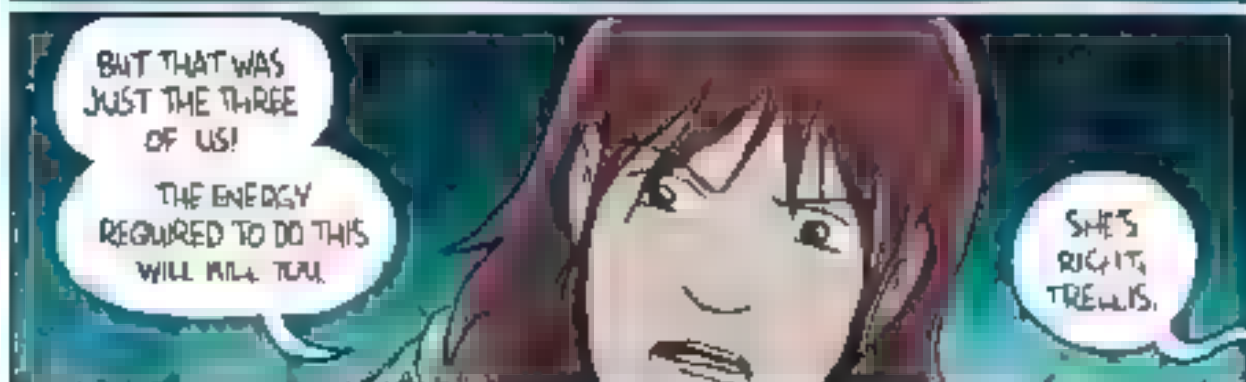
YOU KNOW  
WHAT I MEAN,  
EMILY

DO YOU  
HAVE A  
PLAN?



IF I GROUP THE  
ELVES INTO THE LANDING  
BAY, MIGHT BE ABLE  
TO SHIELD THEM ALL  
FROM THE IMPACT.

I'VE DONE  
IT ONCE  
BEFORE.



BUT THAT WAS  
JUST THE THREE  
OF US!

THE ENERGY  
REQUIRED TO DO THIS  
WILL KILL YOU.

SHE'S  
RIGHT,  
TREVIS.



IT'S GOING TO  
REQUIRE THE POWER  
OF ALL THREE OF  
OUR STONES.



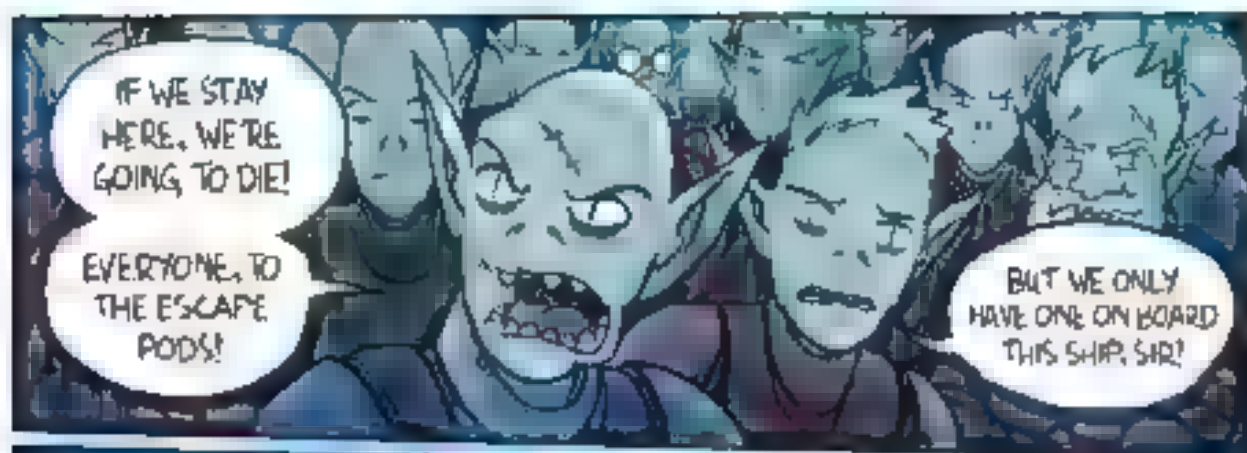
BUT THE ELVES  
OUT THERE STILL  
SEE US AS THE  
ENEMY.

EVEN WITH THREE  
STONEKEEPERS, HOW  
DO WE GET THEM TO  
LISTEN TO US?





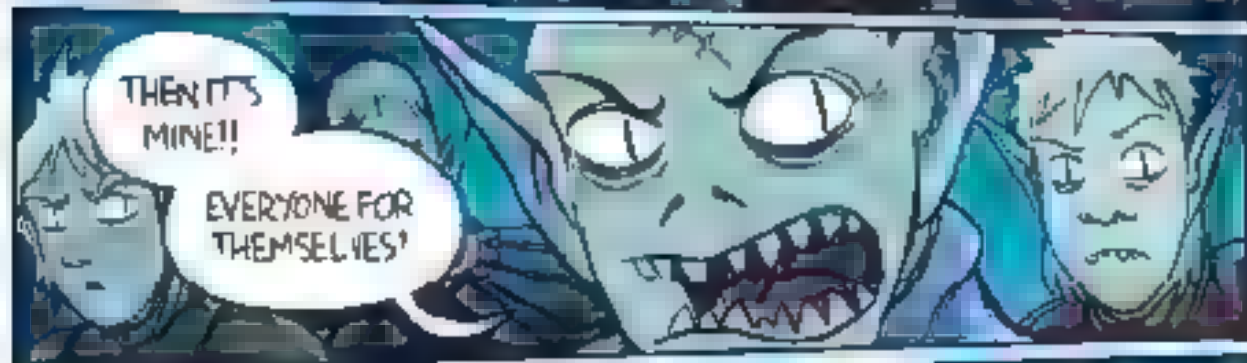




IF WE STAY  
HERE, WE'RE  
GOING TO DIE!

EVERYONE, TO  
THE ESCAPE  
PODS!

BUT WE ONLY  
HAVE ONE ON BOARD  
THIS SHIP, SIR!



THEN IT'S  
MINE!!

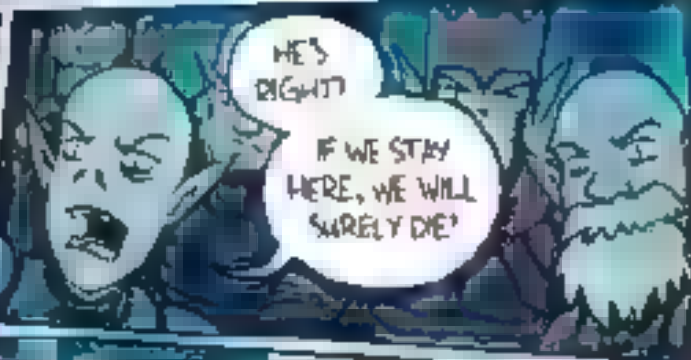
EVERYONE FOR  
THEMSELVES!



BOOM!

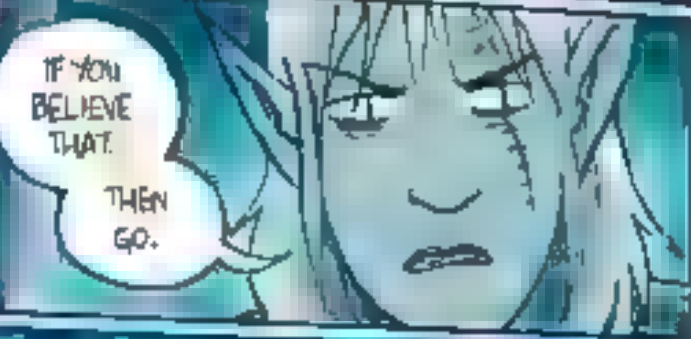
BKOOOM!!

OUT OF  
MY WAY!!



HE'S  
RIGHT!

IF WE STAY  
HERE, WE WILL  
SURELY DIE!



IF YOU  
BELIEVE  
THAT.

THEN  
GO.



WE'LL STAY  
WITH YOU, PRINCE  
TRELIS.

BUT HOW  
WILL WE  
SURVIVE?









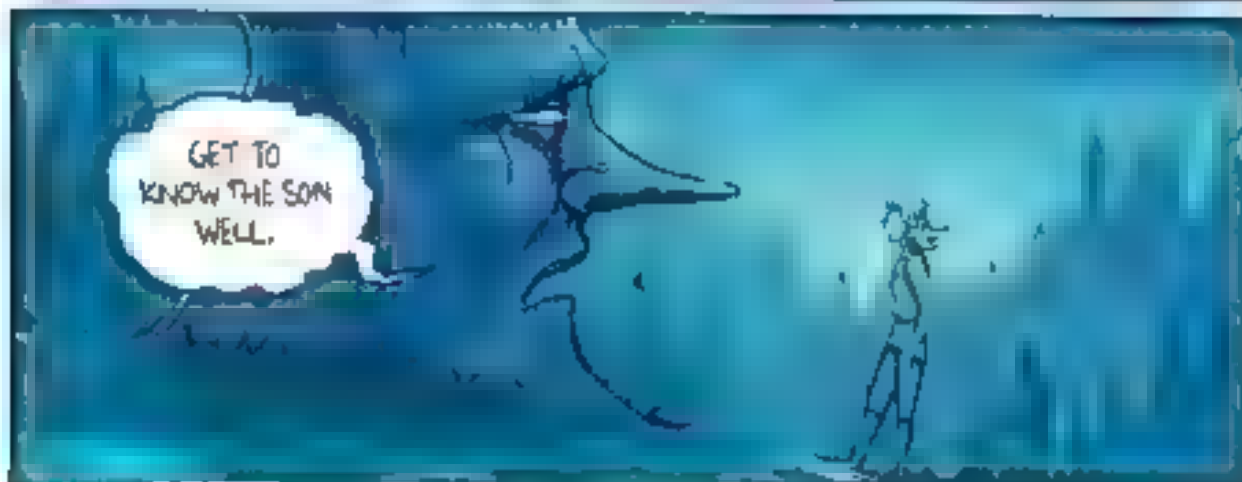


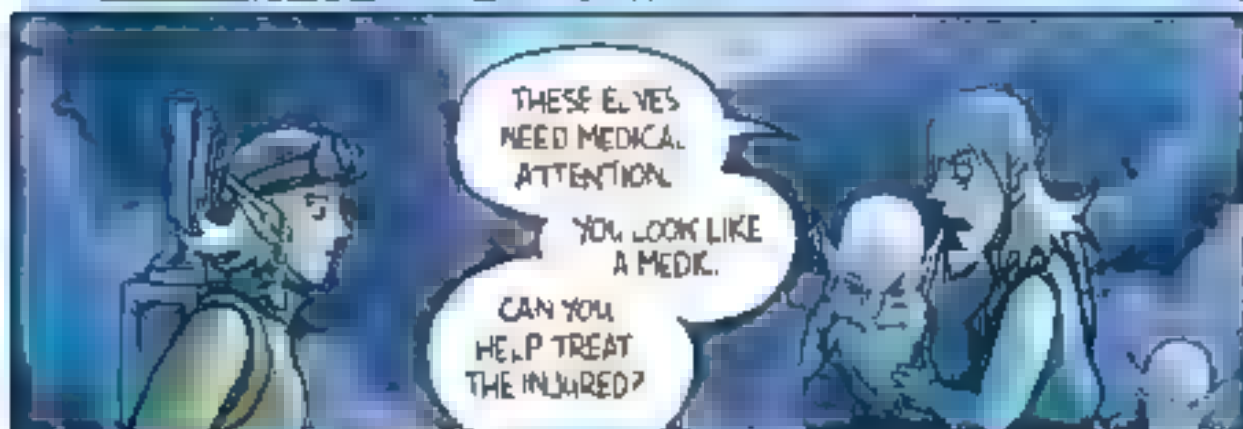
SKY WILL  
TO FALL...



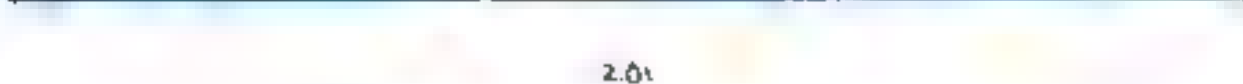


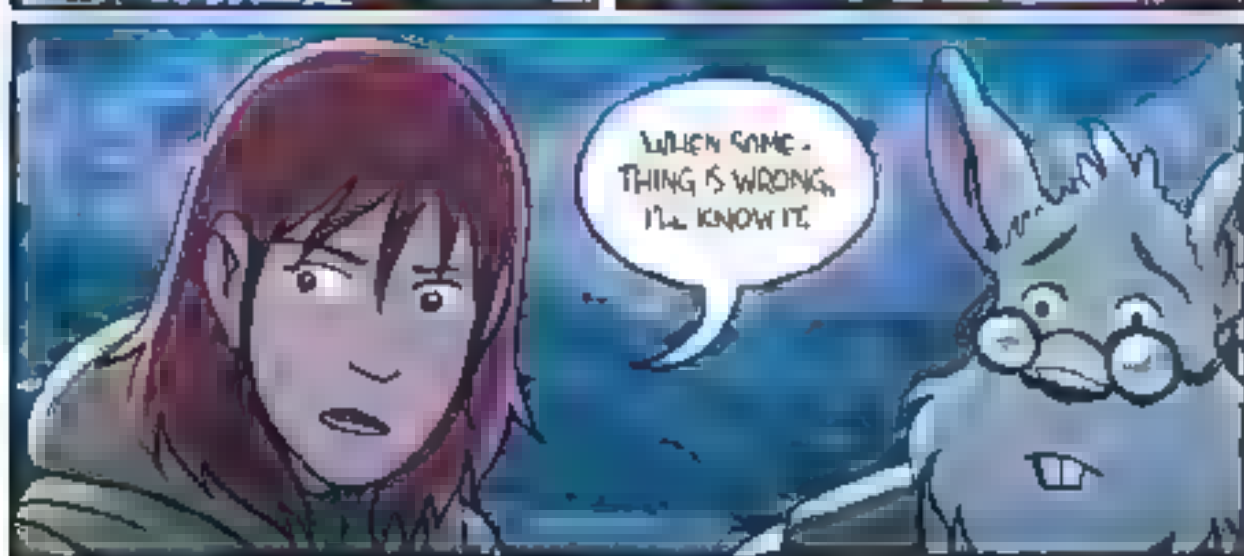
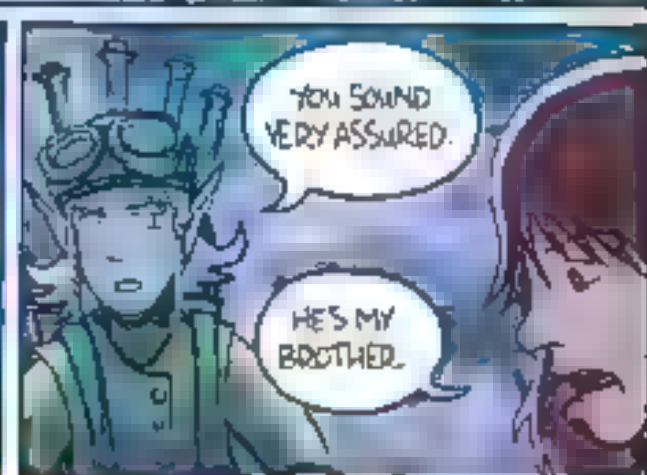
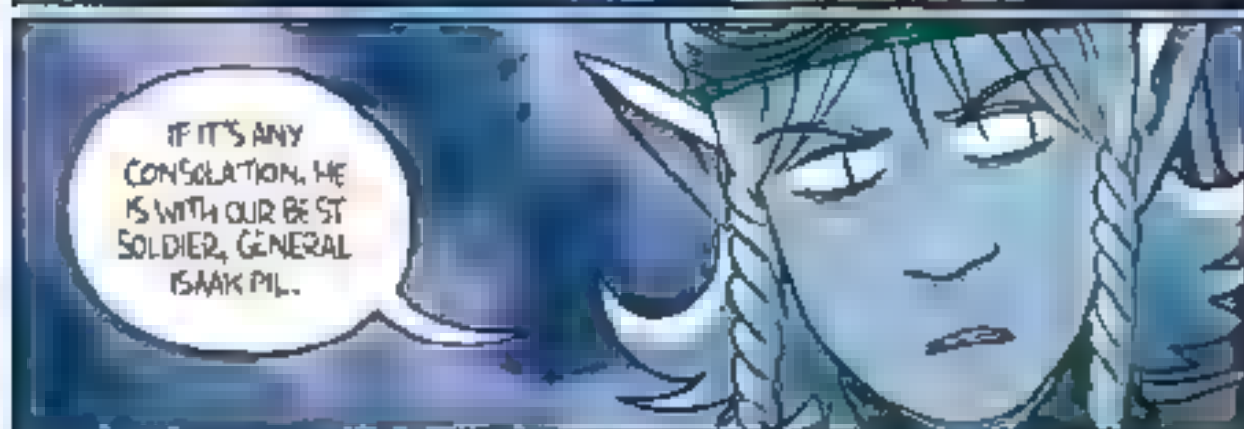
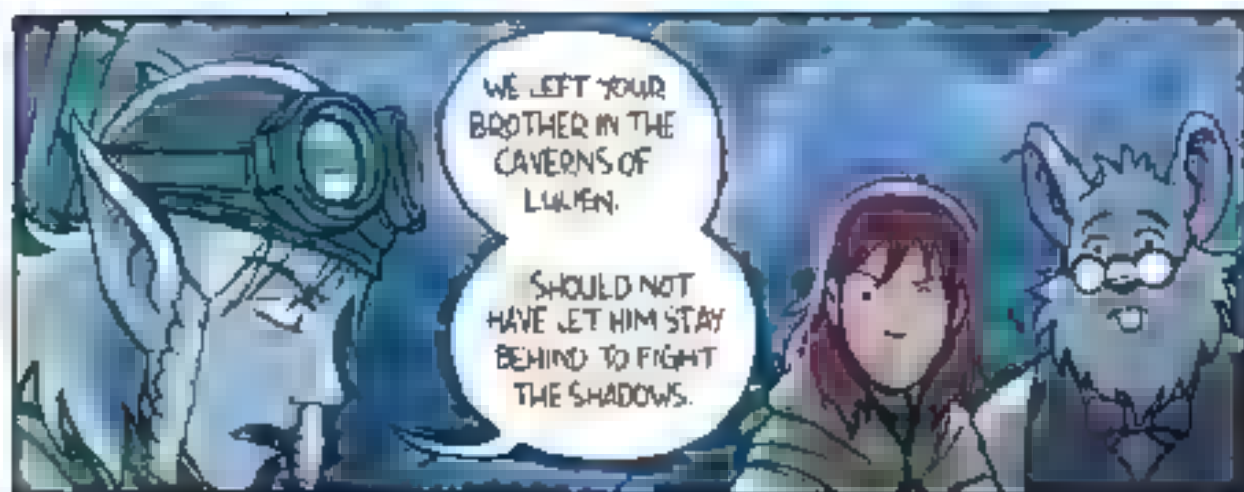


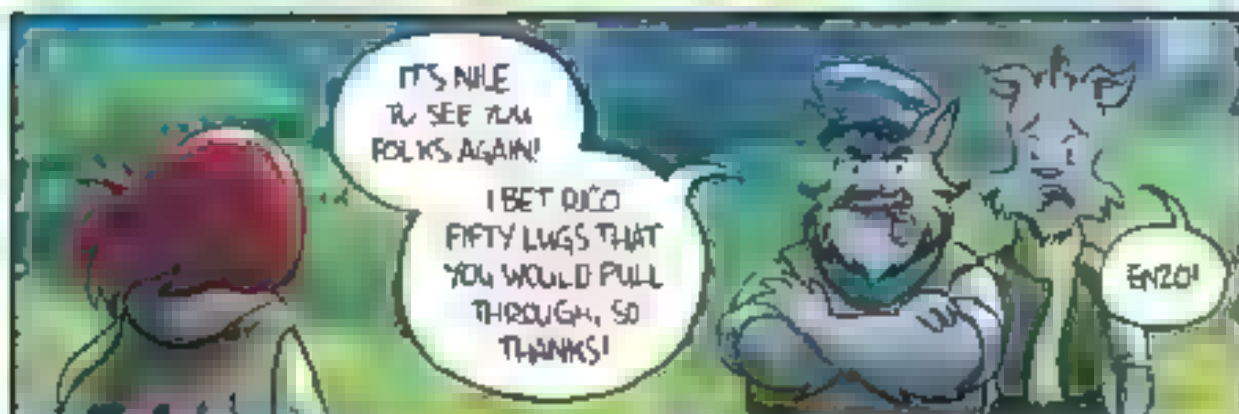
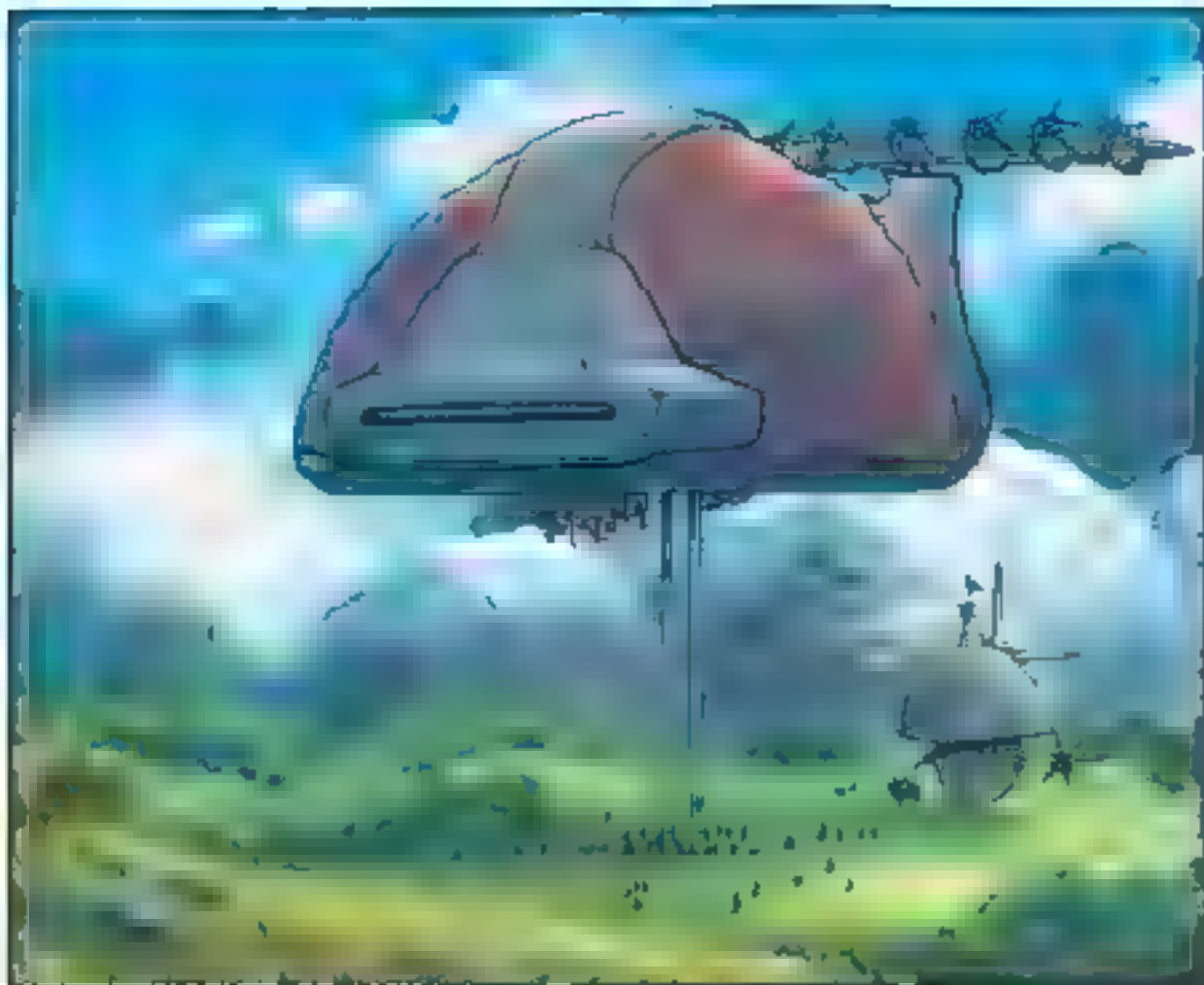




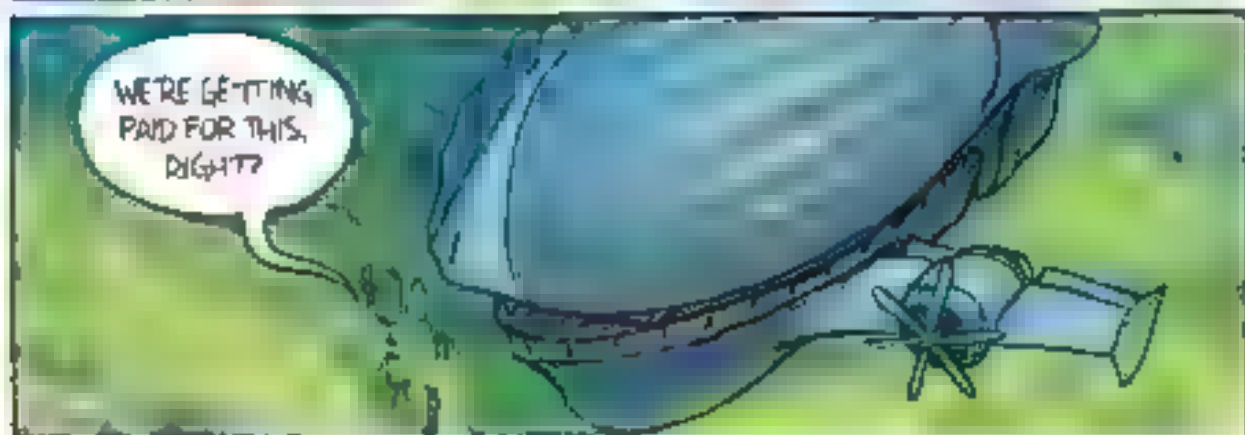








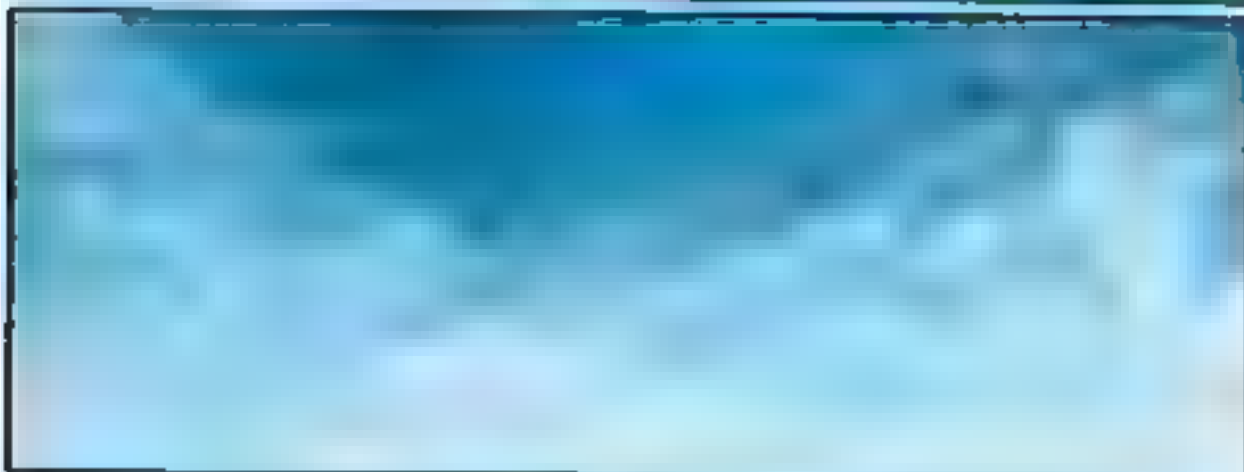




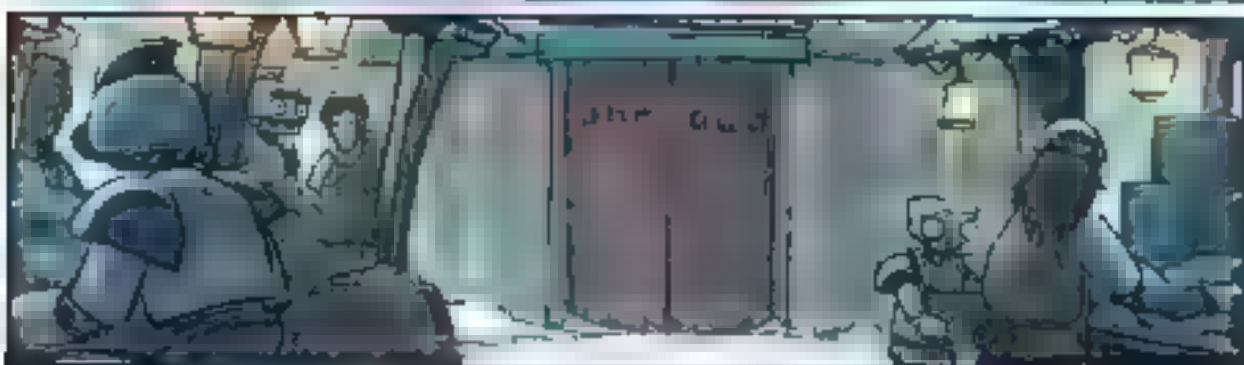
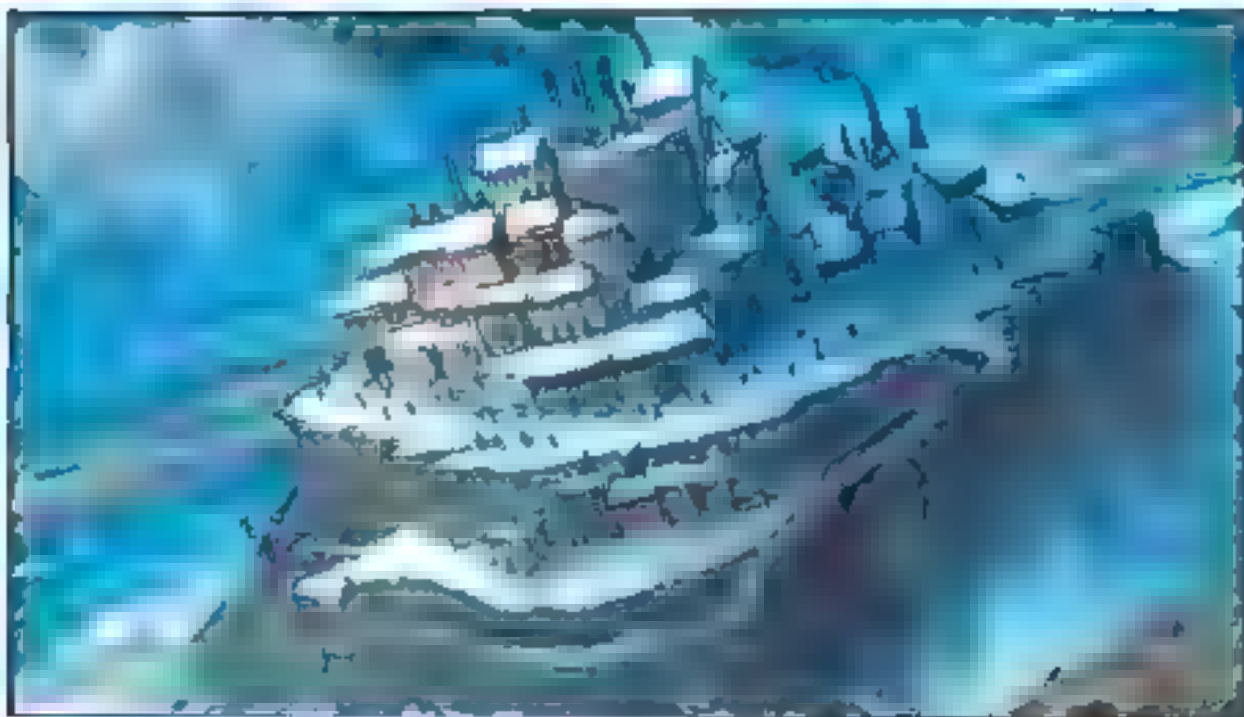




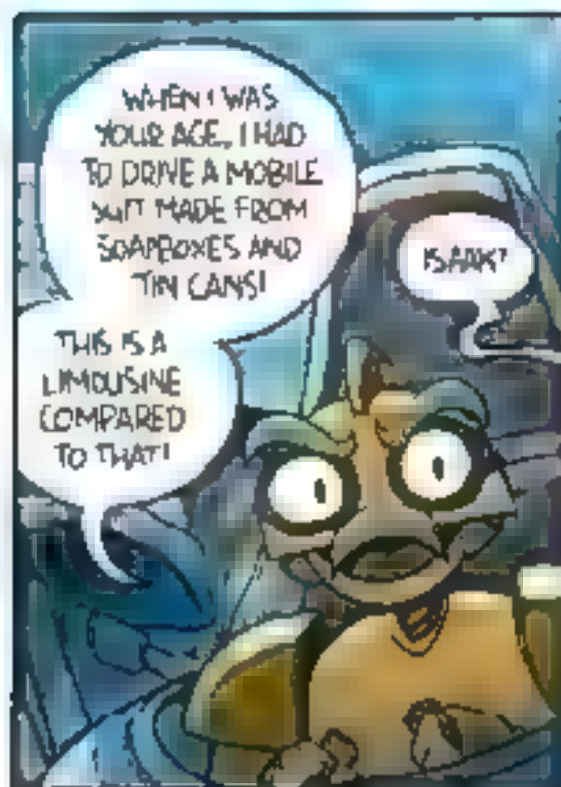
BUT I HAVE A  
FEELING I HAVEN'T  
SEEN THE LAST  
OF HIM.



500 MILES NORTH OF ILCIEN







WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I HAD TO DRIVE A MOBILE SUIT MADE FROM SOAPBOXES AND TIN CANS!

THIS IS A LIMOUSINE COMPARED TO THAT!

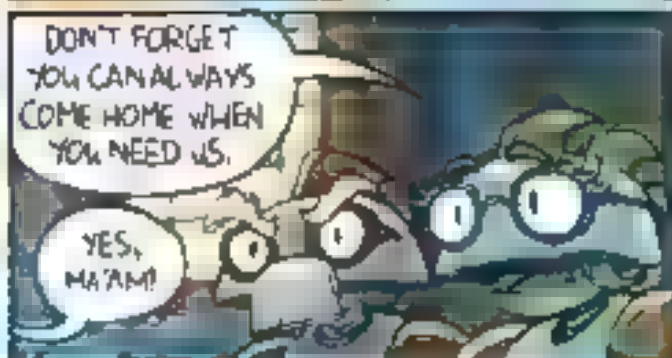
BAAK!



WHEN I WAS THEIR AGE, WE MADE MOBILE SUITS FROM WOOD AND STONE?

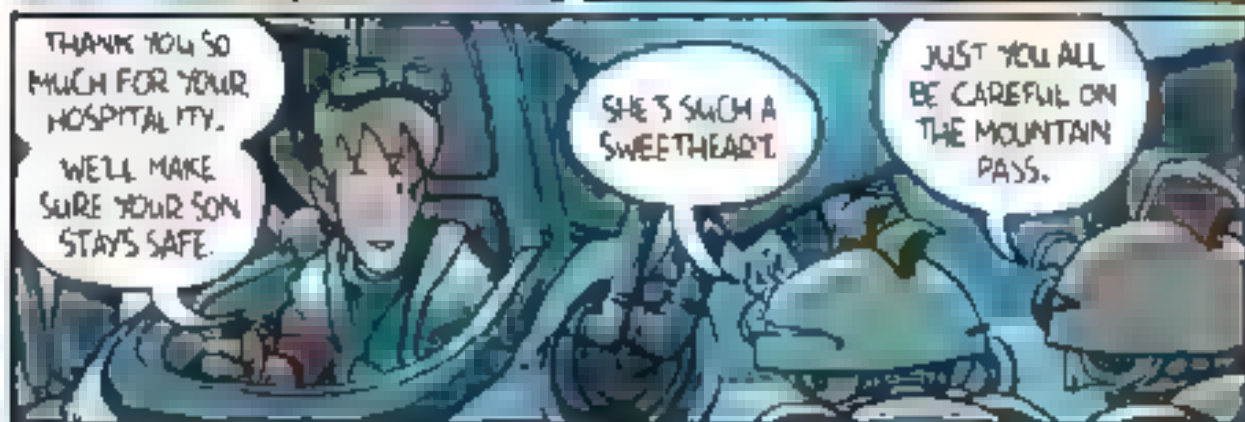
EVEN YOU HAD IT EASY, MY SON!

YES, SIR!



DON'T FORGET YOU CAN ALWAYS COME HOME WHEN YOU NEED US.

YES, MA'AM!



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY. WE'LL MAKE SURE YOUR SON STAYS SAFE.

SHE'S SUCH A SWEETHEART.

JUST YOU ALL BE CAREFUL ON THE MOUNTAIN PASS.



NOT ONLY IS THE PASS PATROLLED BY ELVES, BUT IT IS TRAVELED BY ROGUES, BANDITS, AND MONSTERS, SO STAY ALERT!



WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE.

AND THANK YOU FOR THE EQUIPMENT.

JUST BRING IT BACK IN ONE PIECE!



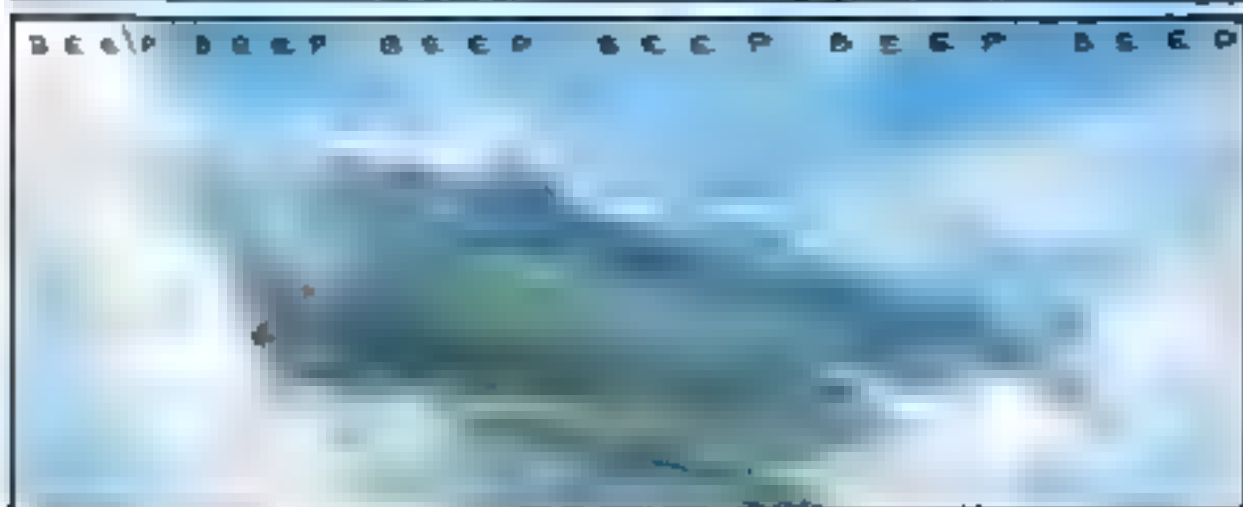
WILL DO!

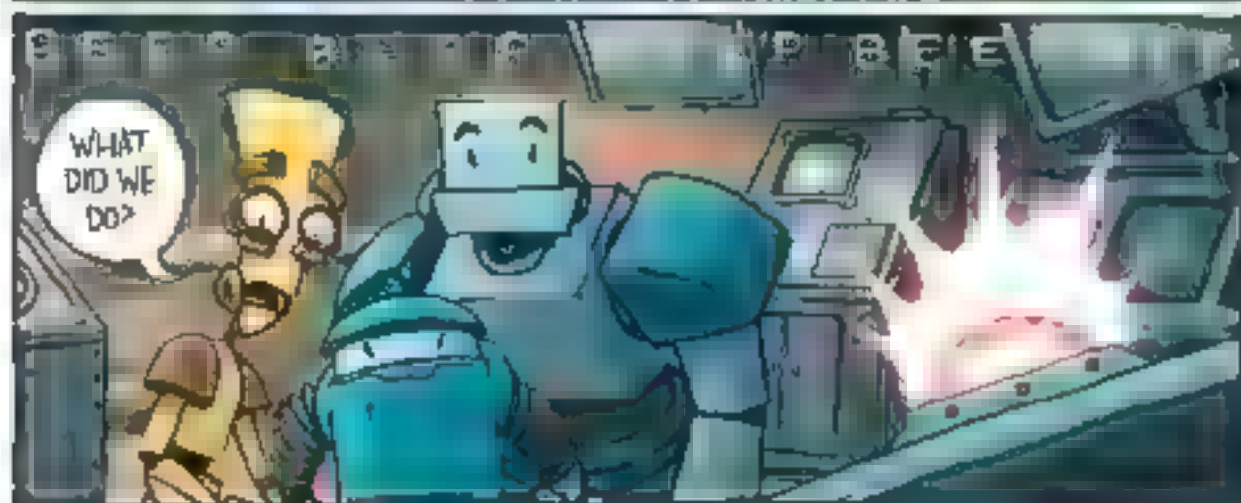
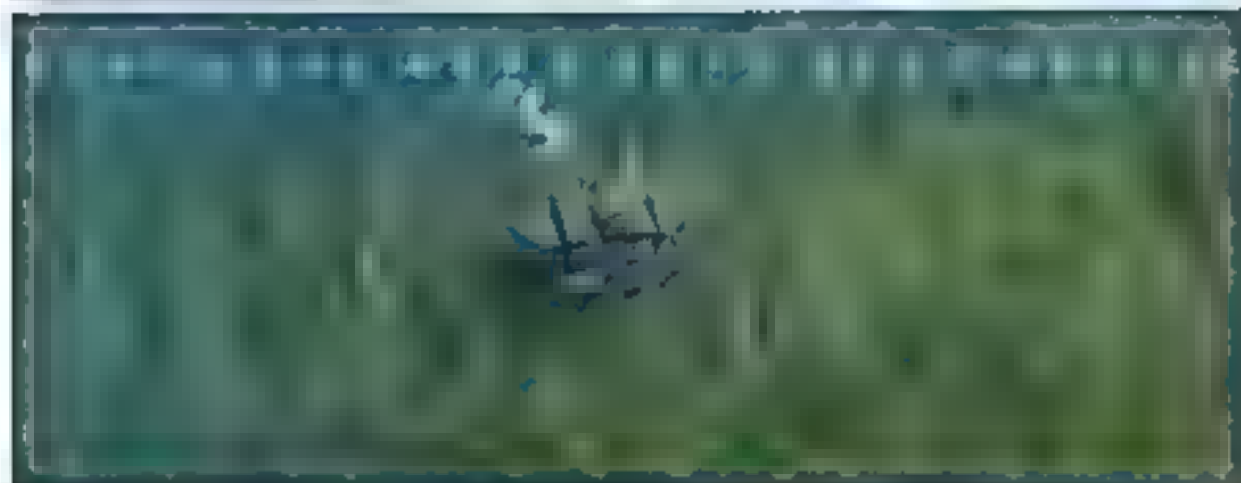
YOU'RE NOT GETTING THOSE BACK

OH, I KNOW











I THOUGHT  
WE REPAIRED  
EVERYTHING!

WHAT MORE  
DO YOU WANT  
FROM US,  
HOUSE?!



SIR?  
THAT IS A  
DISTRESS  
SIGNAL!

SOMEBODY  
HAS ACTIVATED  
THE BEACON!



THE SIGNAL IS  
COMING FROM  
THE CITY OF  
LUCIEN!

STRANGE,  
BECAUSE LUCIEN  
IS REPORTEDLY  
ABANDONED!



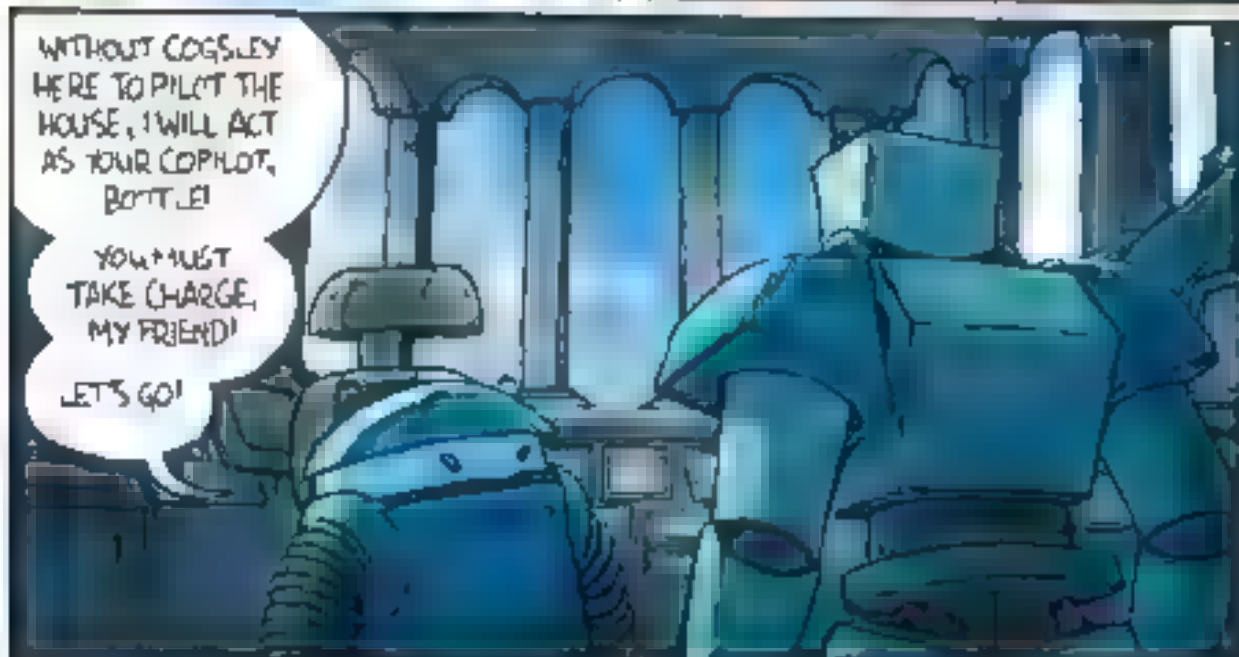
THEN MAYBE  
THE SIGNAL IS  
A MISTAKE.

LET SOMEONE  
ELSE HANDLE  
THE CALL.

SILAS  
WOULD NOT  
DO THAT! WE  
MUST ACT!



LET'S  
DO THIS!



WITHOUT COGSLEY  
HERE TO PILOT THE  
HOUSE, I WILL ACT  
AS YOUR COPILOT,  
BOTTLE!

YOU MUST  
TAKE CHARGE,  
MY FRIEND!

LET'S GO!







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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kazu Kibuishi is the creator of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Amulet series. *Amulet, Book One: The Stonekeeper* was an ALA Best Book for Young Adults and a Children's Choice Book Award finalist. He is also the creator of *Copper*, a collection of his popular webcomic that features an adventuresome boy-and-dog pair. Kazu also illustrated the covers of the 15th anniversary paperback editions of the *Harry Potter* series written by J. K. Rowling. He lives and works in Seattle, Washington, with his wife, Amy Kim Kibuishi, and their children.

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